

Exhibit A

Caption in Compliance with D.N.J. LBR 9004-1

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**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF JERSEY**

In re

BARIS A. KANTARCI,

Debtor.

Case No. 20-23720-SLM

Chapter 7

Honorable Stacey L. Meisel

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Adv. No. 21-01214-SLM

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

**COMPLAINT OBJECTING TO DISCHARGEABILITY OF
DEBT UNDER 11 U.S.C. § 523 AND FOR RELATED RELIEF**

Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. (“CFG” or the “Company”), by and through its attorneys, Herrick, Feinstein LLP, hereby files this *Complaint Objecting to Dischargeability of*

Debt Under 11 U.S.C. § 523 and For Related Relief (the “Complaint”), and in support thereof, states as follows:

Nature of the Action

1. The United States Bankruptcy Code was designed to help honest debtors suffering from financial distress to obtain a fresh start. Section 523 of the Bankruptcy Code ensures that debtors who behave fraudulently do not enjoy the benefits of this system.

2. Here, CFG discovered that Baris Kantarci, the debtor and the Company’s former President, had sexually harassed a female employee so egregiously that she quit after just five days on the job. CFG further discovered that Kantarci was illegally importing energy drinks using his position as CFG’s President, not only benefiting at the Company’s expense, but also jeopardizing the Company’s reputation and privileges with United States Customs. Based on these facts, the Company brought a lawsuit against Kantarci and obtained a default judgment for \$596,186.06.

3. The one question before the Court is this: Should a debtor who owes a debt because he sexually harassed an employee and defrauded a company that he owed fiduciary duties to benefit from a discharge of that debt? CFG submits that the answer is no. Kantarci’s debt is the paradigmatic example of a non-dischargeable debt.

Jurisdiction and Venue

4. The Court has jurisdiction over this adversary proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157(b)(2)(I) and 1334(b).

5. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(I). CFG consents to the entry of final orders or judgment by this Court if it is determined that consent of the parties is required by this Court to enter final orders or judgment consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.

6. Venue of this case and this adversary proceeding in this District is proper under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

The Parties

7. CFG is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware with a principal place of business in Hoboken, New Jersey. CFG is a multinational company that has been in the olive oil and gourmet foods business for more than 25 years.

8. Baris Kantarci (“Kantarci” or the “Debtor”) is the former President of the Company who, upon information and belief, resides in Weehawken, New Jersey. Kantarci was employed by CFG at its principal place of business in Hoboken, New Jersey, from around September 2010 until around July 2019, when his employment was terminated because he had defrauded the Company and sexually harassed an employee.

Background

A. CFG hired Kantarci to serve as President

9. CFG supplies large supermarket chains such as Walmart, Shop Rite, Stop & Shop, HEB, Winn Dixie, Bi-Lo, Shaws, Market Basket, Delhaize Group, Burlington, Albertsons, and TJX Companies in the United States with products that it produces through four plants in the Aegean Region of Turkey, the main agricultural area of the country of Mediterranean style food. Today, CFG is on 7 continents, with 3 warehouses and 4 sales offices. CFG sells its products worldwide in more than 60 countries.

10. Around September 2010, CFG hired Kantarci, who served as the President of the Company at CFG’s Hoboken location, with all employees in that office reporting to him.

B. Kantarci sexually harassed a subordinate employee, which resulted in her quitting her job and eventually suing CFG

11. In February 2019, a former employee (the “Former Employee”) filed a lawsuit (the

“Sexual Harassment Lawsuit”) against CFG for sexual harassment (the “Sexual Harassment”) committed against her by Kantarci while he was the President of CFG.

12. The story begins on January 8, 2019, when the Former Employee began her employment with CFG.¹ The Sexual Harassment Lawsuit alleged that from the day the Former Employee began working for CFG, Kantarci consistently and repeatedly committed acts of sexual harassment against her, including not only the making of explicit comments but also inappropriate and offensive touching like holding her hands, rubbing and kissing her.

13. On just her fourth day of employment, Kantarci brought her to a strip club while on a business trip in California, with Kantarci’s conduct during the evening being so offensive that it culminated in her resignation.

14. The Sexual Harassment Lawsuit further alleged that the inappropriate conduct and touching resulted in the Former Employee booking an early flight home, and, upon her return to New Jersey, she filed a police report regarding Kantarci’s misconduct.

15. The Former Employee was only employed by the Company for five days.

16. The Sexual Harassment Lawsuit alleged counts of “Hostile Work Environment Due to Sex” against CFG and “Aiding and Abetting Harassment” against Kantarci.

17. After the Sexual Harassment Lawsuit was filed, the Former Employee provided the Company with video of Kantarci’s conduct.

18. Upon information and belief, Kantarci received a demand letter (the “Demand Letter”) from the Former Employee’s attorney as early as January 2019, but he concealed it from

¹ The Sexual Harassment Lawsuit has a public docket in New Jersey state court, but in an effort to protect the victim’s privacy and to prevent her name from being published on another docket (especially when such publication will not benefit her in any way), CFG has not attached any pleadings from the Sexual Harassment Lawsuit. CFG does not believe that review of the complaint in the Sexual Harassment Lawsuit is necessary, but to the extent the Court needs to review any filings, CFG can provide such documents to the Court for in-camera review or file such documents on the docket, redacting the victim’s name and the case number.

CFG. CFG was not aware of the Sexual Harassment until it became a subject of the Sexual Harassment Lawsuit.

19. Once alerted about the Sexual Harassment that had taken place in February, CFG immediately investigated the allegations. The Company initially relegated Kantarci to working remotely and later terminated his employment.

20. Initially, Kantarci offered to pay all or part of any settlement or judgment against the Company in an attempt to bargain for his continued employment, but he later withdrew any commitment to pay and did not contribute to any settlement.

21. The Company settled the Sexual Harassment Lawsuit and the case was closed in September 2019. The Company, however, suffered hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages in connection with settlement, litigation costs, and other fees.

C. Kantarci fraudulently imported beverages into the United States using his position as President of CFG

22. CFG is in the business of importing goods into the United States. Accordingly, CFG maintains shipping privileges with United States Customs and Border Protection (“CPB”).

23. The importation of food and beverages into the United States is a heavily regulated activity. Importers of food products intended for introduction into United States interstate commerce, such as CFG, are responsible for ensuring that the products are safe, sanitary, and labeled according to United States requirements.

24. Imported food products are subject to scrutinous inspection by the United States Food and Drug Administration (the “FDA”).

25. Beginning around July 2019, the FDA sent a series of Notices of FDA Action to CFG.

26. After a period of investigation, CFG discovered that Kantarci had unilaterally given

CFG's vendor, All-Ways, approval to use the Company's shipping account for the importation of energy drinks from exporters in Poland, the Netherlands, and South Africa. Kantarci gave his approval without CFG's knowledge or endorsement, presumptively for his own personal benefit and with such action exposing CFG to possible legal liability and FDA action.

27. To date, CFG has uncovered at least seven months (January to July 2019) during which Kantarci was fraudulently importing goods through the entirely unauthorized use of CFG's name, resources, and privileges for his own benefit.

28. Kantarci knew that the Company would not detect his unauthorized use of CFG's name, resources, and privilege because Kantarci told less senior staff that he was the one dealing with all documents regarding arrival notices and invoices.

D. CFG received a state court judgment against Kantarci

29. On December 13, 2019, CFG brought a civil action against Kantarci in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hudson County: Law Division (the "State Court"), Dkt. No. HUD-L-004847-19 (the "State Court Action") to recover substantial damages flowing from Kantarci's breach of fiduciary duties that Kantarci owed to CFG as an officer, employee, and agent of the Company, as well as for his fraud and usurpation of corporate opportunity.²

30. On January 14, 2020, counsel for Kantarci at that time, Jon. S. Deutsch, Esq., accepted service on behalf of Kantarci and executed an Acknowledgement of Service.³

31. On March 17, 2020, Mr. Deutsch filed a motion to be relieved as counsel ("Motion to Be Relieved as Counsel") on the grounds that Kantarci failed to cooperate in the defense of the state court complaint.⁴ According to the Motion to Be Relieved as Counsel, Kantarci "failed to

² The complaint in the State Court Action is annexed as Exhibit A.

³ A copy of the Acknowledgment of Service is annexed as Exhibit B.

⁴ A copy of the Motion to Be Relieved as Counsel is annexed as Exhibit C.

answer emails, telephone calls and texts" and "failed to send the retainer." The Motion to Be Relieved as Counsel noted that representation of Kantarci was rendered unreasonably difficult by his failure to respond.

32. On April 24, 2020, the State Court entered an order relieving Mr. Deutsch as counsel (the "Order Relieving Counsel").⁵ In the Order Relieving Counsel, the State Court also entered default and gave Kantarci thirty additional days to retain new counsel.

33. Kantarci never moved to vacate the default entered against him. Accordingly, on August 19, 2020, CFG filed a motion for an order entering final judgment by default against Kantarci (the "Motion for Final Judgment").⁶

34. On September 11, 2020, the State Court entered a final judgment by default (the "Final Default Judgment") against Kantarci in the amount of \$596,186.06.⁷ The State Court noted that it had "considered the courtesy copy and exhibits 1 through 4 and Exhibits A through M submitted for in camera review" and that the application was unopposed.

E. Kantarci files this bankruptcy case

35. On December 18, 2020, Kantarci filed the above-captioned case (the "Chapter 7 Case"). Jeffrey Thomas Testa was appointed the chapter 7 trustee in the Chapter 7 Case.

36. The deadline to object to the dischargeability of debts under 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(2), (4), or (6) in the Chapter 7 Case has been set for March 23, 2021. *See Notice of Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Case* (ECF No. 3), at § 9.

First Cause of Action

Nondischargeability of debt due to fraudulent importation of beverages

37. CFG repeats and realleges the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

⁵ A copy of the Order Relieving Counsel is annexed as Exhibit D.

⁶ A copy of the Motion for Final Judgment is annexed as Exhibit E.

⁷ A copy of the Final Default Judgment is annexed as Exhibit F.

38. Kantarci made false representations, including implied misrepresentations and omissions fostering a false impression of material facts, about using CFG's relationship with All-Ways to import energy drinks for his own personal benefit.

39. Kantarci knew, at all times, that his representations and omissions were false.

40. Kantarci made the misrepresentation with the intent and purpose of deceiving CFG and with the intent to use CFG's resources for personal gain.

41. CFG relied on Kantarci's misrepresentation and continued to employ Kantarci in his capacity as President while he was fraudulently using CFG's relationship with All-Ways to import energy drinks for his own personal benefit.

42. CFG sustained loss and damages as a direct and proximate result of Kantarci's misrepresentations and omissions with respect to the importation of energy drinks, which fostered a false impression of material facts.

43. CFG is entitled to entry of an order declaring that its claims be excepted from the Debtor's discharge pursuant to section 523(a)(2)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Second Cause of Action
Nondischargeability of debt due to fraudulent actions related to sexual harassment

44. CFG repeats and realleges the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

45. Kantarci made false representations, including implied misrepresentations or omissions that fostered a false impression when he failed to tell anyone at CFG about the Sexual Harassment and when he concealed the Demand Letter from CFG.

46. Kantarci knew, at all times, that his representations and omissions with respect to the Sexual Harassment and Demand Letter were false.

47. Kantarci made the misrepresentation about the Sexual Harassment and the Demand Letter with the intent and purpose of deceiving CFG, presumably so that he did not lose his position

as President of CFG.

48. CFG relied on Kantarci's misrepresentation with respect to the Sexual Harassment and the Demand Letter and continued to employ Kantarci in his capacity as President because CFG was not aware of the Sexual Harassment or the Demand Letter. Indeed, once alerted to the Sexual Harassment, CFG investigated the allegations and terminated Kantarci's employment in July 2019.

49. CFG sustained loss and damages as a direct result of Kantarci's misrepresentation with respect to the Sexual Harassment and the Demand Letter.

50. CFG is entitled to entry of an order declaring that its claims be excepted from the Debtor's discharge pursuant to section 523(a)(2)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Third Cause of Action

Nondischargeability of debt due to fraud and defalcation while acting in a fiduciary duty

51. CFG repeats and realleges the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

52. Kantarci, as President of CFG, acted as a fiduciary with respect to his position at CFG. As part of his duties as President, Kantarci was entrusted with CFG's money, partner connections, and international shipping privileges.

53. Kantarci committed fraud and defalcation while acting in his fiduciary capacity by using CFG's relationship with All-Ways to illegally ship energy drinks to the United States for his own personal gain.

54. Kantarci knew that his behavior was improper and would violate the fiduciary duties he owed to CFG.

55. CFG is entitled to entry of an order declaring that its claims be excepted from the Debtor's discharge pursuant to section 523(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Fourth Cause of Action

Nondischargeability of debt due to embezzlement

56. CFG repeats and realleges the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

57. Kantarci embezzled CFG's property. Kantarci was entrusted with CFG's money, partner connections, and shipping privileges with CPB, all of which he misappropriated for his own use to illegally ship energy drinks to the United States for his own personal gain. Kantarci misappropriated CFG's property with fraudulent intent, knowing that his behavior was improper and violated the fiduciary duties he owed to CFG.

58. CFG is entitled to entry of an order declaring that its claims be excepted from the Debtor's discharge pursuant to section 523(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Fifth Cause of Action

NondischARGEABILITY OF DEBT DUE TO WILLFUL AND MALICIOUS INJURY CAUSED BY KANTARCI TO CFG BY SEXUALLY HARASSING CFG'S EMPLOYEE

59. CFG repeats and realleges the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

60. Kantarci inflicted the Sexual Harassment in such a manner that he was substantially certain that injury would result to the Former Employee and to CFG, as evidenced by the fact that he neither told the Company about his behavior nor told CFG when he received the Demand Letter. Indeed, his actions had the purpose of producing injury to CFG. Kantarci damaged CFG's reputation and CFG had to bear the costs of a settlement with the Former Employee. Kantarci's behavior towards the Former Employee was malicious and committed with wanton and willful disregard of both the Former Employee's person and CFG.

61. CFG is entitled to entry of an order declaring that its claims be excepted from the Debtor's discharge pursuant to section 523(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Sixth Cause of Action

NondischARGEABILITY OF DEBT DUE TO WILLFUL AND MALICIOUS INJURY CAUSED BY KANTARCI TO CFG BY ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF GOODS

62. CFG repeats and realleges the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

63. Kantarci's actions in using CFG's relationship with All-Ways to import energy drinks for his own personal benefit were inflicted in such a manner that he was substantially certain that injury would result to CFG and its property and had the purpose of producing injury to CFG and its property. Kantarci knew that his actions would result in injury to CFG.

64. CFG is entitled to entry of an order declaring that its claims be excepted from the Debtor's discharge pursuant to section 523(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code.

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Prayer for Relief

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, CFG respectfully requests that the Court:

- A. Enter judgment on the First Cause of Action determining that Kantarci's debt to CFG is not discharged pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(2)(A);
- B. Enter judgment on the Second Cause of Action determining that Kantarci's debt to CFG is not discharged pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(2)(A);
- C. Enter judgment on the Third Cause of Action determining that Kantarci's debt to CFG is not discharged pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(4);
- D. Enter judgment on the Fourth Cause of Action determining that Kantarci's debt to CFG is not discharged pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(4);
- E. Enter judgment on the Fifth Cause of Action determining that Kantarci's debt to CFG is not discharged pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(6); and
- F. Enter judgment on the Sixth Cause of Action determining that Kantarci's debt to CFG is not discharge pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(6).
- G. Enter such other further relief to which CFG may be entitled as a matter of law or equity, or which the Court determines to be just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York
March 23, 2021

HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP

/s/ Steven B. Smith

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*Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group,
Inc.*

EXHIBIT A

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COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO.:

CIVIL ACTION

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. (“CFG” or the “Company”), by and through its attorneys, Herrick, Feinstein, LLP, allege and state as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. CFG brings this action to recover from its former President, Baris Kantarci (“Kantarci”), the substantial damages flowing from Kantarci’s breach of fiduciary duties, including the duties of loyalty and good faith, that Kantarci owed to CFG as an officer, employee and agent of the Company. CFG also seeks recovery from Kantarci for his fraud and usurpation of corporate opportunity.

2. During his tenure with CFG, Kantarci behaved antithetically to any basic expectations, the Company’s policies, and the corporate culture. Kantarci sexually harassed a female employee exposing the Company reputationally and financially in a publicly filed lawsuit. Kantarci additionally used the Company’s shipping privileges with United States Customs and shipping account with its vendor, All-Ways, to ship what appear to be energy drinks into the United States presumably for Kantarci’s personal financial benefit and with such action (*i.e.* the

importation of beverages into the United States) of course further exposing the Company to legal liability. As of the date of this filing, the Company has uncovered at least seven months during which Kantarci made repeated unauthorized shipments using the Company's name and resources.

3. Kantarci wrongfully and intentionally engaged in these actions and in doing so breached the trust placed in him by the Company and abused his power and his position for his own personal benefit. Kantarci additionally concealed his wrongdoing in utter disregard for his duties and obligations. His misconduct has substantially damaged the Company.

THE PARTIES

4. Plaintiff CFG is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware with a principal place of business in Hoboken, New Jersey.

5. Defendant Kantarci is the former President of the Company who, upon information and belief, resides in Weehawken, New Jersey.

6. Mr. Kantarci was employed by the Company at its principal place of business in Hoboken, New Jersey, from at or around September 2010 until July 2019, when his employment was terminated for cause.

BACKGROUND

7. Cosmopolitan is a multinational company that has been in the olive oil and gourmet foods business for more than 25 years. Today CFG is on 7 continents, with 3 warehouses and 4 sales offices and is selling its products worldwide in more than 60 countries.

8. CFG supplies large supermarket chains such as Walmart, Shoprite, Stop&Shop, HEB, Winn Dixie, Bi-Lo, Shaws, Market Basket, Delhaize Group, Burlington, Albertsons and TJX Companies in the USA with products that it produces through four plants in the Aegean Region of Turkey, the main agricultural area of the country for Mediterranean style food.

9. Examples of CFG's products include olive oil, vinegars, salad dressings, bruschetta's, sundried tomatoes, capers and peppers.

10. In or around September 2010, CFG hired Kantarci, who came to serve as the President of the Company at CFG's Hoboken location, with all employees in that office reporting to him.

The Sexual Harassment

11. In late February 2019, a female employee filed a legal claim for blatant and egregious sexual harassment committed by Kantarci during his employment with the Company.

12. To wit, the female in issue was employed by the Company for only five days.

13. During her short tenure, Kantarci consistently and repeatedly committed acts of sexual harassment against her, including not only the making of explicit comments but also inappropriate and offensive touching like holding her hands, rubbing and kissing her.

14. On just her fourth day of employment, Kantarci brought her to a strip club while on a business trip in California, with Kantarci's conduct during the evening being so offensive that it culminated in her resignation, early flight home, and the filing of a police report in New Jersey. The female employee provided the Company with video of certain of Kantarci's conduct.

15. CFG was not aware of these issues until it found itself the subject of a lawsuit filed against it.

16. Indeed, upon information and belief, Kantarci received a demand letter from the victim's attorney as early as January 2019, but concealed it from CFG.

17. Once alerted to the situation, CFG investigated the allegations.

18. In attempts to bargain for his continued employment with the Company, Kantarci in the first instance offered to pay all or part of any settlement or judgment against the Company but

thereafter withdrew such commitment. The Company, at any rate, relegated Kantarci to working remotely and thereafter fully and finally terminated his employment as of July 25, 2019.

19. The Company was able to settle the claims for sexual harassment, with the case in issue being closed in or about September 2019. However, the Company suffered hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages in connection with settlement, litigation costs, and other fees.

The Unauthorized Importation of Beverages Into The United States

20. As stated, CFG is in the business of importing goods into the United States.

21. As such, CFG maintains shipping privileges with United States Customs and Border Protection (“CPB”).

22. The importation of food and beverages into the United States is not an insignificant commercial business but instead a heavily regulated activity.

23. Importers of food products intended for introduction into U.S. interstate commerce are responsible for ensuring that the products are safe, sanitary, and labeled according to U.S. requirements.

24. Imported food products are subject to FDA inspection when offered for import at U.S. ports of entry.

25. Beginning on or around July 19, 2019, the FDA began sending a series of Notices of FDA Action regarding a hold designated over energy drinks for which CFG was the alleged importer and consignee.

26. After further investigation it was uncovered that Kantarci had unilaterally given CFG's vendor, All-Ways, approval to use CFG's shipping account for the importation of the energy drinks from exporters in Poland, the Netherlands and South Africa, all without CFG's approval or knowledge, presumptively for his own personal benefit and with such action exposing the Company to possible legal liability and/or FDA action.

27. To date, CFG has uncovered no less than seven months (from at least January – July 2019) during which Kantarci was clandestinely importing goods through the improper and entirely unauthorized use of the Company's name, resources, and privileges for his own benefit.

28. Kantarci knew that the Company would not detect his unauthorized use of the Company's name, resources and privilege because Kantarci told less senior staff that he was the one dealing with all documents regarding arrival notices and invoices.

COUNT I

(Breach of Fiduciary Duty and the Duties of Loyalty and Good Faith)

29. CFG repeats and realleges each and every of the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

30. As an officer, employee and agent of CFG, Kantarci owed the Company fiduciary duties, including the duties of loyalty and good faith. Kantarci had an affirmative duty to act at all times in the Company's best interests and to place the interests of the Company above his own.

31. Kantarci, during his tenure with CFG, instead acted in a manner contrary to the legitimate interests of the Company.

32. Kantarci failed to discharge his fiduciary duties to the Company, including the duties of loyalty and good faith, when he acted against the interests of the Company. Kantarci failed, neglected and refused to exercise the degree of care, skill and diligence required of him.

33. Kantarci breached his fiduciary duty and his duties of loyalty and good faith to CFG.

34. Kantarci's breaches of his fiduciary duty and of his duties of good faith and loyalty have directly and proximately caused CFG harm.

WHEREFORE, and for the foregoing reasons, the Company respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in its favor and against Kantarci for:

- a) Monetary damages;

- b) Forfeiture and disgorgement of all compensation paid to Kantarci, including salary, bonus payments, and other payments and benefits during the period in which he acted adversely to CFG, lasting at least seven months;
- c) Interest, costs of suit and attorneys' fees;
- d) Punitive damages; and
- e) Such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

COUNT II

(Faithless Servant)

35. CFG repeats and realleges each and every of the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

36. Kantarci was an employee and agent of the Company. As President, Kantarci reported directly to the Board of Directors.

37. As an employee and agent of the Company, Kantarci owed fiduciary duties of loyalty and good faith to the Company. Kantarci had an affirmative duty at all times to be loyal to the Company and to avoid acting in any manner inconsistent with his agency. He was at all time bound to exercise the utmost good faith and loyalty in the performance of his duties.

38. Kantarci breached his fiduciary duties of loyalty and good faith when he acted adversely to the Company and for his own personal benefit.

39. Kantarci's disloyal activity was related to the performance of his duties.

40. These breaches permeated Kantarci's services as an executive employee in material and substantial parts of his employment with CFG.

41. Kantarci's actions have directly and proximately caused CFG harm.

WHEREFORE, and for the foregoing reasons, the Company respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in its favor and against Kantarci for:

- a) Forfeiture and disgorgement of all compensation paid to Kantarci, including salary, bonus payments, and other payments and benefits during the period in which he acted adversely to CFG, lasting at least seven months;
- b) Interest, costs of suit and attorneys' fees;
- c) Such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

COUNT III

(Usurpation of Corporate Opportunity)

42. CFG repeats and realleges each and every of the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

43. Kantarci has engaged in surreptitious transactions using the Company's name, resources and privileges to benefit financially and to the exclusion of the Company.

44. The transactions in issue are properly corporate opportunities for the importation of foodstuffs and/or beverages.

45. By his acts described above, Kantarci has usurped the corporate opportunities of CFG and/or secretly profited from this competitive activity.

46. Kantarci's actions were willful, wanton, malicious and in reckless disregard for CFG's rights.

47. As a result, CFG has been damaged.

WHEREFORE, and for the foregoing reasons, the Company respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in its favor and against Kantarci for:

- a) Money damages for the value of the lost opportunity;
- b) Forfeiture and disgorgement of all secret profit; interest, costs of suit and attorneys' fees;
- c) Punitive damages; and

d) Such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: December 13, 2019

HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
Attorneys for Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

By: /s/ Avery S. Mehlman
Avery S. Mehlman

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 4:5-1

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the matter in controversy is not the subject of any action pending in any other court or of a pending arbitration proceeding, nor is any other action or arbitration proceeding contemplated. I know of no other parties other than the parties set forth in this pleading who should be joined in the above action.

Dated: December 13, 2019

/s/ Avery S. Mehlman

Avery S. Mehlman

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial by jury as to all issues so triable.

Dated: December 13, 2019

/s/ Avery S. Mehlman

Avery S. Mehlman

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., of the firm of Herrick, Feinstein LLP, is hereby designated as trial counsel for the plaintiffs in the above-captioned matter.

Dated: December 13, 2019

/s/ Avery S. Mehlman

Avery S. Mehlman

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 1:38-7(B)

I hereby certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the Court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with Rule 1:38-7(b).

Dated: December 13, 2019

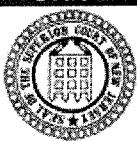
/s/ Avery S. Mehlman

Avery S. Mehlman

Appendix XII-B1

	<h2>Civil Case Information Statement (CIS)</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Use for initial Law Division Civil Part pleadings (not motions) under Rule 4:5-1 Pleading will be rejected for filing, under Rule 1:5-6(c), if information above the black bar is not completed or attorney's signature is not affixed</p>		<small>For Use by Clerk's Office Only</small>	
			<small>Payment type:</small> <input type="checkbox"/> ck <input type="checkbox"/> cg <input type="checkbox"/> ca <small>Chg/Ck Number:</small> <small>Amount:</small> <small>Overpayment:</small> <small>Batch Number:</small>	
<small>Attorney/Pro Se Name</small> Avery S. Mehlman		<small>Telephone Number</small> 973-274-2000	<small>County of Venue</small> Hudson	
<small>Firm Name (if applicable)</small> Herrick, Feinstein LLP		<small>Docket Number (when available)</small>		
<small>Office Address</small> One Gateway Center Newark, New Jersey 07102		<small>Document Type</small> Complaint		
		<small>Jury Demand</small> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<small>Name of Party (e.g., John Doe, Plaintiff)</small> Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.		<small>Caption</small> Cosmopolitan Food Group v. Baris Kantarci		
<small>Case Type Number (See reverse side for listing)</small> 509		<small>Is this a professional malpractice case?</small> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <small>If you have checked "Yes," see N.J.S.A. 2A:53A-27 and applicable case law regarding your obligation to file an affidavit of merit.</small>		
<small>Related Cases Pending?</small> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		<small>If "Yes," list docket numbers</small>		
<small>Do you anticipate adding any parties (arising out of same transaction or occurrence)?</small> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		<small>Name of defendant's primary insurance company (if known)</small> <input type="checkbox"/> None <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown		
The Information Provided on This Form Cannot be Introduced into Evidence.				
<small>Case Characteristics for Purposes of Determining if Case is Appropriate for Mediation</small>				
<small>Do parties have a current, past or recurrent relationship?</small> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<small>If "Yes," is that relationship:</small> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employer/Employee <input type="checkbox"/> Friend/Neighbor <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain) <input type="checkbox"/> Familial <input type="checkbox"/> Business		
<small>Does the statute governing this case provide for payment of fees by the losing party?</small> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
<small>Use this space to alert the court to any special case characteristics that may warrant individual management or accelerated disposition</small>				
<small>Do you or your client need any disability accommodations?</small> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<small>If yes, please identify the requested accommodation:</small>		
<small>Will an interpreter be needed?</small> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<small>If yes, for what language?</small>		
<small>I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with Rule 1:38-7(b).</small>				
<small>Attorney Signature:</small> 				

Side 2



CIVIL CASE INFORMATION STATEMENT (CIS)

Use for initial pleadings (not motions) under Rule 4:5-1

CASE TYPES (Choose one and enter number of case type in appropriate space on the reverse side.)

Track I - 150 days' discovery

- 151 NAME CHANGE
- 175 FORFEITURE
- 302 TENANCY
- 399 REAL PROPERTY (other than Tenancy, Contract, Condemnation, Complex Commercial or Construction)
- 502 BOOK ACCOUNT (debt collection matters only)
- 505 OTHER INSURANCE CLAIM (including declaratory judgment actions)
- 506 PIP COVERAGE
- 510 UM or UIM CLAIM (coverage issues only)
- 511 ACTION ON NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT
- 512 LEMON LAW
- 801 SUMMARY ACTION
- 802 OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT (summary action)
- 999 OTHER (briefly describe nature of action)

Track II - 300 days' discovery

- 305 CONSTRUCTION
- 509 EMPLOYMENT (other than CEPA or LAD)
- 599 CONTRACT/COMMERCIAL TRANSACTION
- 603N AUTO NEGLIGENCE – PERSONAL INJURY (non-verbal threshold)
- 603Y AUTO NEGLIGENCE – PERSONAL INJURY (verbal threshold)
- 605 PERSONAL INJURY
- 610 AUTO NEGLIGENCE – PROPERTY DAMAGE
- 621 UM or UIM CLAIM (includes bodily injury)
- 699 TORT – OTHER

Track III - 450 days' discovery

- 005 CIVIL RIGHTS
- 301 CONDEMNATION
- 602 ASSAULT AND BATTERY
- 604 MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
- 606 PRODUCT LIABILITY
- 607 PROFESSIONAL MALPRACTICE
- 608 TOXIC TORT
- 609 DEFAMATION
- 616 WHISTLEBLOWER / CONSCIENTIOUS EMPLOYEE PROTECTION ACT (CEPA) CASES
- 617 INVERSE CONDEMNATION
- 618 LAW AGAINST DISCRIMINATION (LAD) CASES

Track IV - Active Case Management by Individual Judge / 450 days' discovery

- 156 ENVIRONMENTAL/ENVIRONMENTAL COVERAGE LITIGATION
- 303 MT. LAUREL
- 508 COMPLEX COMMERCIAL
- 513 COMPLEX CONSTRUCTION
- 514 INSURANCE FRAUD
- 620 FALSE CLAIMS ACT
- 701 ACTIONS IN LIEU OF PREROGATIVE WRITS

Multicounty Litigation (Track IV)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 271 ACCUTANE/ISOTRETINOIN | 297 MIRENA CONTRACEPTIVE DEVICE |
| 274 RISPERDAL/SEROQUEL/ZYPREXA | 299 OLMESARTAN MEDOXOMIL MEDICATIONS/BENICAR |
| 281 BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB ENVIRONMENTAL | 300 TALC-BASED BODY POWDERS |
| 282 FOSAMAX | 601 ASBESTOS |
| 285 STRYKER TRIDENT HIP IMPLANTS | 623 PROPECIA |
| 286 LEVAQUIN | 624 STRYKER LFIT CoCr V40 FEMORAL HEADS |
| 289 REGLAN | 625 FIREFIGHTER HEARING LOSS LITIGATION |
| 291 PELVIC MESH/GYNECARE | 626 ABILIFY |
| 292 PELVIC MESH/BARD | 627 PHYSIOMESH FLEXIBLE COMPOSITE MESH |
| 293 DEPUY ASR HIP IMPLANT LITIGATION | 628 TAXOTERE/DOCETAXEL |
| 295 ALLODERM REGENERATIVE TISSUE MATRIX | 629 ZOSTAVAX |
| 296 STRYKER REJUVENATE/ABG II MODULAR HIP STEM COMPONENTS | 630 PROCEED MESH/PATCH |

If you believe this case requires a track other than that provided above, please indicate the reason on Side 1, in the space under "Case Characteristics."

Please check off each applicable category Putative Class Action Title 59

Civil Case Information Statement

Case Details: HUDSON | Civil Part Docket# L-004847-19

Case Caption: COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC. VS
KANTARCI BARIS

Case Initiation Date: 12/13/2019

Attorney Name: AVERY S MEHLMAN

Firm Name: HERRICK FEINSTEIN, LLP

Address: 2 PARK AVE

NEW YORK NY 10016

Phone: 2125921400

Name of Party: PLAINTIFF : Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

Name of Defendant's Primary Insurance Company

(if known): None

Case Type: EMPLOYMENT (OTHER THAN CEPA OR LAD)

Document Type: Complaint with Jury Demand

Jury Demand: YES - 6 JURORS

Is this a professional malpractice case? NO

Related cases pending: NO

If yes, list docket numbers:
Do you anticipate adding any parties (arising out of same transaction or occurrence)? NO

THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS FORM CANNOT BE INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE

CASE CHARACTERISTICS FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING IF CASE IS APPROPRIATE FOR MEDIATION

Do parties have a current, past, or recurrent relationship? NO

If yes, is that relationship:

Does the statute governing this case provide for payment of fees by the losing party? NO

Use this space to alert the court to any special case characteristics that may warrant individual management or accelerated disposition:

Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? NO

If yes, please identify the requested accommodation:

Will an interpreter be needed? NO

If yes, for what language:

Please check off each applicable category: Putative Class Action? NO Title 59? NO

I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with Rule 1:38-7(b)

12/13/2019
Dated

/s/ Avery S Mehlman
Signed

EXHIBIT B

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., Attorney ID No. 251072017
K. Heather Robinson, Esq. Attorney ID No. 024492006
HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 274-2000
Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.
Plaintiff,
v.
BARIS KANTARCI
Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

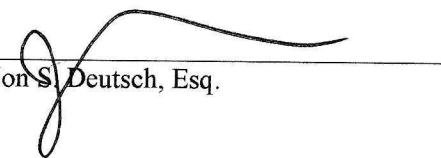
DOCKET NO.: HUD-L-004847-19

CIVIL ACTION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SERVICE

On this 14th day of January, 2020, the undersigned hereby acknowledges and accepts service by email on behalf of defendant Baris Kantarci of the Summons, Complaint, and Case Information Statement filed by plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. in connection with the above-captioned civil action.

Attorney for Defendant Baris Kantarci


Jon S. Deutsch, Esq.

Dated: January 14, 2020

EXHIBIT C

JON S. DEUTSCH
Attorney ID # 037771987
7 Codington Lane
Warren, New Jersey 07059
(732) 925-3036
FAX (732) 271-2761
jsdeutschesq@aol.com

Attorneys for Defendant, Baris Kantarci

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION: HUDSON COUNTY**

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.,

CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff,

vs.

BARIS KANTARCI,

Defendant.

Docket No. HUD-L-004847-19

**NOTICE OF MOTION TO BE RELIEVED
AS COUNSEL**

TO: **Baris Kantarci**
1500 Harbor Blvd, Apt 524
Weehawken, New Jersey 07086

ON NOTICE TO: **Avery S. Mchelman, Esq**
Herrick, Feinstein LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey
973.274.2000

Attorney for COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP

SIR:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on April 9, 2020 at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, the undersigned, Attorney for Defendant, Baris Kantarci, shall move before the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Hudson County, Jersey City, New Jersey, for an order as follows:

1. Relieving Jon S. Deutsch, Esq. as Attorney for Defendant;

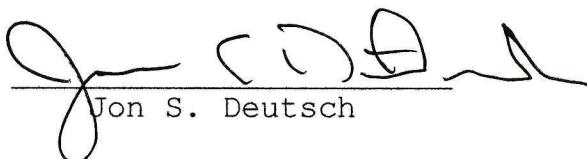
2. For such other relief as the court deems just and equitable.

IN SUPPORT of the within application, counsel for Defendant will rely on the annexed certification.

A proposed order is attached hereto.

Pursuant to R. 1:6-2, oral argument is waived.

Dated: 3-12-2020

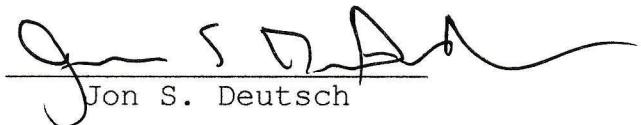


Jon S. Deutsch

CERTIFICATION

On March 17/18 2020, I forwarded to Plaintiff via Ecourts, certified mail, return receipt requested and by regular mail, a copy of the within notice of motion, certification and proposed form of order.

Dated: 3/17/2020



Jon S. Deutsch

-1-

JON S. DEUTSCH
Attorney ID # 037771987
7 Codington Lane
Warren, New Jersey 07059
(732) 925-3036
FAX (732) 271-2761
jsdeutsch@comcast.net

Attorneys for Defendant, Baris Kantarci

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION: HUDSON COUNTY**

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.,

CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff,

Docket No. HUD-L-004847-19

vs.

BARIS KANTARCI,

ORDER RELIEVING COUNSEL

Defendant.

THIS MATTER being opened to the court by, Jon S. Deutsch Esq, Attorney for Defendant, upon application to be relieved as counsel, and the court having reviewed the papers in support of the within application and any opposing papers, and good cause appearing:

IT IS on this _____ day of _____, 2020:

-2-

ORDERED that Jon S. Deutsch, ESQ., is hereby relieved
counsel for Defendant, BARIS KANTARCI, and has no further
obligation in this matter, and

ORDERED that Defendant, BARIS KANTARCI, shall be given _____
additional days to retain new Counsel.

J.S.C.

JON S. DEUTSCH
Attorney ID # 037771987
7 Codington Lane
Warren, New Jersey 07059
(732) 925-3036
FAX (732) 271-2761
jsdeutsch@comcast.net

Attorneys for Defendant, Baris Kantarci

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION: HUDSON COUNTY**

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.,

CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff,

Docket No. HUD-L-004847-19

vs.

BARIS KANTARCI,

Defendant.

**CERTIFICATION IN
SUPPORT OF MOTION TO
BE RELIEVED AS
COUNSEL**

JON S. DEUTSCH, ESQ., of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

1. I am an attorney at law of the State of New Jersey and represent the Defendant. I make this certification in support of the within application.

2. The within action was filed by Plaintiff on December 12, 2019, alleging: Count 1) Breach of Fiduciary Duty and Duties of Loyalty and Good Faith, Count 2) Faithless Servant, And Count 3) Usurpation of Corporate Opportunity.

3. On January 10, 2020, the Defendant signed my firms Agreement to Represent with the stipulation that work would not

begin until a \$5,000 retainer was received by the firm, although the firm would agree to accept service on behalf of the Defendant.

4. Service was accepted on January 14, 2020, with the agreed stipulation, with Counsel for Plaintiff, that the Defendant shall have an additional 30 days to answer the Complaint, in addition to the Rule requirement of 35 days to answer the Complaint, thus, the answer was due March 19, 2020.

5. As of March 17, 2020, I have not had any contact with the Defendant to discuss the Complaint, nor has my firm received the agreed retainer.

6. Either via Telephone, Email or Text, I have tried to contact the Defendant on the following dates (all 2020), and he has not replied; January 11, January 13 (2 times) January 21, January 22, January 25, January 27, January 28 (2 times) February 3, March 6, and March 16 (5 times: 2 via text, 1 email and 2 via phone). All communication was to advise him to contact me and that the retainer was not received. The most recent communications were to advise the Defendant I was moving to withdrawal as Counsel for his failure to communicate and failure to pay the retainer. (Although there was one text on 1/27/2020 to indicate "I am excited you are working on it").

7. Pursuant to the New Jersey Rules of Professional

Conduct (RPC) 1.16 **Declining or Terminating Representation**, a lawyer may withdraw from representing a client if:

a (5) the client fails substantially to fulfill an obligation to the lawyer regarding the lawyer's services and has been given reasonable warning that the lawyer will withdraw unless the obligation is fulfilled;

b (6) the representation will result in an unreasonable financial burden on the lawyer or has been rendered unreasonably difficult by the client; or

8. The Defendant has failed to cooperate with the Firm and he has been warned that if a retainer was not received and he did not cooperate, the Firm would move to withdraw as counsel.

Additionally, the Firm will incur billable hours and Court fees that will not be reimbursed. Finally, the in-action by the Defendant has made the representation unreasonable difficult.

9. Therefore, I respectfully request that my motion to be relieved as counsel be granted.

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I further certify that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

Dated: March 17, 2020



JON S. DEUTSCH

JON S. DEUTSCH
Attorney ID # 037771987
7 Codington Lane
Warren, New Jersey 07059
(732) 925-3036
FAX (732) 271-2761
jsdeutschesq@aol.com

Attorneys for Defendant, Baris Kantarci

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION: HUDSON COUNTY**

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.,

CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff,

vs.

BARIS KANTARCI,

Defendant.

Docket No. HUD-L-004847-19

PROOF OF SERVICE

JON S. DEUTSCH, of full age, duly certifies as follows:

1. On March 14, 2020, I e-filed the within Notice of Motion to be Relieved as Counsel, Certification, Brief in Support, and proposed form of Order with the Hudson County Superior Court, with a copy to my adversary, Avery S. Mehlman, Esq.

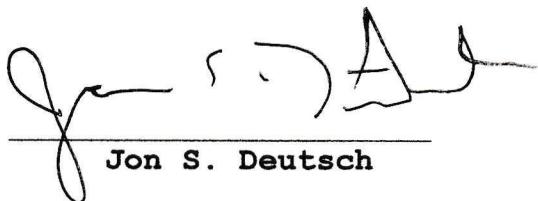
2. On March 18, 2020, I forwarded by certified mail, return receipt requested and regular mail, a copy of the

within Notice of Motion to be Relieved as Counsel,
Certification, Brief in Support, and proposed form of Order
to:

Baris Kantarci
1500 Harbor Blvd, Apt 524
Weehawken, New Jersey 07086

I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me
are true. If any of the foregoing statements are willfully
false, I am subject to punishment.

Dated: March 17, 2020



Jon S. Deutsch

JON S. DEUTSCH
Attorney ID # 037771987
7 Codington Lane
Warren, New Jersey 07059
(732) 925-3036
FAX (732) 271-2761
jsdeutschesq@aol.com

Attorneys for Defendant, Baris Kantarci

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION: HUDSON COUNTY**

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.,

CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff,

vs.

BARIS KANTARCI,

Defendant.

Docket No. HUD-L-004847-19

**BRIEF OF DEFENDANT IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO BE
RELIEVED AS COUNSEL**

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Jon S. Deutsch, Esq, refers to the facts set forth in the March 17, 2020 Certification of Jon S. Deutsch submitted herewith (hereinafter the “Deutsch Certification”).

LEGAL ARGUMENT

POINT I

JON S. DEUTSCH IS ENTITLED TO BE BE RELIEVED AS COUNSEL FOR BARIS KANTARCI

New Jersey Rule of Professional Conduct 1.16 (“RPC 1.16”) sets forth when an attorney may withdraw from representing a client:

RPC 1.16 Declining or Terminating Representation

(a) Except as stated in paragraph (c), a lawyer shall not represent a client or, where representation has commenced, shall withdraw from the representation of a client if:

- (1) the representation will result in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law;
- (2) the lawyer's physical or mental condition materially impairs the lawyer's ability to represent the client; or
- (3) the lawyer is discharged.

(b) Except as stated in paragraph (c), a lawyer may withdraw from representing a client if:

- (1) withdrawal can be accomplished without material adverse effect on the interests of the client;
- (2) the client persists in a course of action involving the lawyer's services that the lawyer reasonably believes is criminal or fraudulent;
- (3) the client has used the lawyer's services to perpetrate a crime or fraud;

- (4) the client insists upon taking action that the lawyer considers repugnant or with which the lawyer has a fundamental disagreement;
- (5) the client fails substantially to fulfill an obligation to the lawyer regarding the lawyer's services and has been given reasonable warning that the lawyer will withdraw unless the obligation is fulfilled;
- (6) the representation will result in an unreasonable financial burden on the lawyer or has been rendered unreasonably difficult by the client; or
- (7) other good cause for withdrawal exists.

As set forth in the Deutsch Certification, since January 11, 2020, the Defendant has failed to cooperate in the defense of the Complaint. He has failed to answer emails, telephone calls and texts. Additionally, upon being reminded numerous times, he has failed to send the retainer, as agreed, whereby not for filling his obligation. Furthermore, the representation of the Defendant has been rendered unreasonably difficult by his failure to respond. Finally, there will be no material adverse effect on the interests of the Defendant by the withdrawal of Jon S. Deutsch as counsel for Defendant. As of this date, no answer has not been filed. Defendant, if he so desires can retain additional counsel and file an answer to the Complaint.

Finally, Defendant should be given time to retain new counsel if it so chooses. We leave the amount of time for Defendant to retain new counsel up to the discretion of the Court.

CONCLUSION

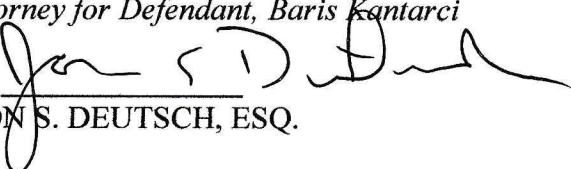
For all the foregoing reasons, as well as those appearing in supporting papers and the record, Baris Kantarci respectfully submits it is entitled to entry of and order granting the relief it seeks.

Respectfully submitted,

JON S. DEUTSCH, ESQ.

Attorney for Defendant, Baris Kantarci

By:


JON S. DEUTSCH, ESQ.

Dated: March 17, 2020

EXHIBIT D

-1-

JON S. DEUTSCH
Attorney ID # 037771987
7 Codington Lane
Warren, New Jersey 07059
(732) 925-3036
FAX (732) 271-2761
jsdeutsch@comcast.net

Attorneys for Defendant, Baris Kantarci

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION: HUDSON COUNTY**

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.,

CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff,

Docket No. HUD-L-004847-19

vs.

BARIS KANTARCI,

ORDER RELIEVING COUNSEL

Defendant.

THIS MATTER being opened to the court by, Jon S. Deutsch Esq, Attorney for Defendant, upon application to be relieved as counsel, and the court having reviewed the papers in support of the within application and any opposing papers, and good cause appearing:

IT IS on this 24th day of April, 2020:

-2-

ORDERED that Jon S. Deutsch, ESQ., is hereby relieved
counsel for Defendant, BARIS KANTARCI, and has no further
obligation in this matter, and

ORDERED that Defendant, BARIS KANTARCI, shall be given 30
additional days to retain new Counsel.

UNOPPOSED by Mr. Katarci. GRANTED for reasons set forth on the record on April 24, 2020.
Until a substitution of attorney is filed, Defendant Kantarci will be
treated as self-represented. All court notices shall be sent
to Defendant Kantarci at 1500 Harbor Blvd., Apt. 524,
Weehawken, NJ 07086. Default is hereby entered.
Counsel for Plaintiff shall either file a motion for judgment
or request a Proof Hearing and fully comply with R. 4:43-1 & 2.
Failure to so move may result in R. 1:13-7 sanctions at the
expiration of 120 days from the date of this Order.

Mary K. Costello
J.S.C.

Mary K. Costello, J.S.C.

EXHIBIT E

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., Attorney ID No. 251072017
Jina Moon, Esq. Attorney ID No. 019552012
HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 274-2000

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO.: HUD-L-004847-19

CIVIL ACTION

**NOTICE OF MOTION FOR AN
ORDER ENTERING FINAL
JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT AGAINST
BARIS KANTARCI**

To: Baris Kantarci
1500 Harbor Blvd, Apt 524
Weehawken, NJ 07086

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on September 11, 2020, at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, the undersigned counsel for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. ("Plaintiff") in the above-captioned action shall move before the Honorable Mary K. Costello, J.S.C., Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Hudson County, located at 585 Newark Avenue, Jersey City, New Jersey pursuant to R. 4:43-2, for the entry of an Order granting Final Judgment by Default Against Defendant Baris Kantarci, and in favor of Plaintiff as to all claims set forth in Plaintiff's Complaint, and for such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Plaintiff shall rely upon the accompanying Certification in Support of Entry of Final Judgment by Default Against Defendant Baris Kantarci, Certification of Attorneys' Fees, and the Certification of Amount Due.

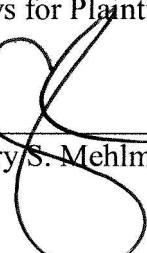
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Plaintiff hereby requests oral argument only if this motion is opposed.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Plaintiff hereby requests a proof hearing if the Court deems the proofs provided to be insufficient.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in accordance with R.1:6-2, a form of order is submitted herewith.

HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
Attorneys for Plaintiff

By:


Avery S. Mehlman

Dated: August 19, 2020

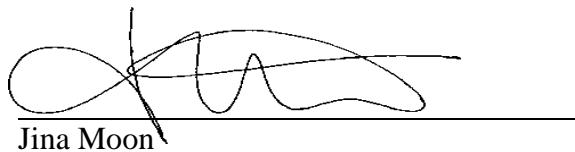
CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

JINA MOON, of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

1. I am an attorney-at-law of the State of New Jersey and associated with the law firm of Herrick, Feinstein LLP, attorneys for Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. in the above-captioned matter.
2. On August 19, 2020, I caused the accompanying Notice of Motion for an Order Entering Final Judgment By Default Against Baris Kantarci, Certification in Support of Entry of Final Judgment by Default Against Defendant Baris Kantarci, Certification of Attorneys' Fees, and the Certification of Amount Due and Non-Military Service to be served by first class mail upon:

Baris Kantarci
1500 Harbor Blvd., Apt 524
Weehawken, New Jersey 07086

3. I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.



Jina Moon

Dated: August 19, 2020

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., Attorney ID No. 251072017
Jina Moon, Esq. Attorney ID No. 019552012
HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 274-2000

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO.: HUD-L-004847-19

CIVIL ACTION

**FINAL JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT
AGAINST BARIS KANTARCI**

Defendant Baris Kantarci (“Kantarci”), having been duly served with process and a copy of the Complaint in the above-captioned action, and having been defaulted for failure to answer, appear or otherwise move as to the Complaint; and Kantarci not being an infant or incompetent person; and plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. (“Plaintiff”) having filed a certification setting forth a particular statement of the items of the claim, including the amounts and dates, a calculation in figures of the amount of interest, the payments or credits, if any, and the net amount due;

FINAL JUDGMENT is on this _____ day of _____, 2020, signed and entered in the sum of \$ [REDACTED], as of July ___, 2020, plus attorneys’ fees and costs in the amount of \$111,360.30, as of July 30, 2020, plus post-judgment interest on and after the date of this Judgment in favor of plaintiff, Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc., and against Defendant upon notice to all parties, for an Order entering default judgment in the above-captioned action; the defaulting party

has been properly served; the address for service has not changed; the time for defendant to answer has expired and has not otherwise been extended; and it appearing that acknowledgement of service have been filed herein; and it further appearing that no opposition to said application has been filed; and for good cause shown;

IT IS on this _____ day of _____, 2020,

ORDERED that default judgment is hereby entered against defendant Baris Kantarci.

HON. MARY J. COSTELLO, J.S.C.

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., Attorney ID No. 251072017
Jina Moon, Esq. Attorney ID No. 019552012
HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 274-2000

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO.: HUD-L-004847-19

CIVIL ACTION

**CERTIFICATION IN SUPPORT OF
ENTRY OF FINAL JUDGMENT BY
DEFAULT AGAINST DEFENDANT
BARIS KANTARCI**

AVERY S. MEHLMAN, of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

1. I am an attorney-at-law of the State of New Jersey and a Partner with the firm of Herrick, Feinstein LLP (“Herrick”), attorneys of plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. (“Plaintiff”) in the above-captioned matter. In this capacity, I am authorized to make this certification in support of Plaintiff’s request for entry of a final judgment by default against Defendant Baris Kantarci (“Kantarci”).

2. On or about December 13, 2019, Plaintiff filed its summons and complaint against Kantarci. A true and correct copy of the complaint, case information statement and summons is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

3. On January 14, 2019, counsel for Kantarci at the time, Jon S. Deutsch, Esq., accepted service on behalf of Plaintiff and executed an Acknowledgement of Service. A copy of the Acknowledgment of Service is annexed hereto as Exhibit B.

4. The parties agreed to extend the deadline by which Kantarci was to answer or otherwise move as to the Complaint until March 19, 2020.

5. Kantarci has failed to answer, appear or otherwise move as to the Complaint.

6. On April 24, 2020, the Court heard oral argument on Plaintiff's counsel's motion to be relieved as counsel. During the oral argument, Defendant's counsel requested the entry of Kantarci's default. In the Court's April 24, 2020 Order, the Court entered default against Kantarci. A true and complete copy of the April 24, 2020 Order is annexed hereto as **Exhibit C**.

7. Upon information and belief, the April 24, 2020 Order was sent to Kantarci by his counsel. However, in an abundance of caution, the April 24, 2020 Order was also mailed to Kantarci at the address in the April 24, 2020 Order by first class mail and certified mail. A true and correct copy of the Certification of Service is annexed hereto as **Exhibit D**.

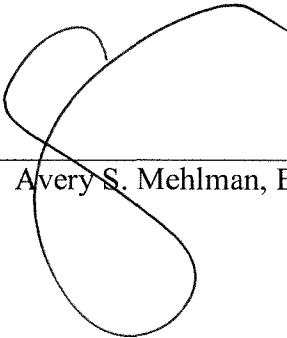
8. Defendant has not moved to vacate the Default.

9. Kantarci is not in the military service of the United States of America, as evidenced by the Military Status Report obtained from the Department of Defense Manpower Data Center in accordance with the Servicemen's Civil Relief Act of 2003. A copy of the same is attached hereto as **Exhibit E**.

10. Plaintiff now requests that Final Judgment be entered against Kantarci, in the amounts set forth in the certifications submitted herewith.

11. In light of Kantarci's default and the damages suffered by Plaintiff, Plaintiff respectfully requests that a final judgment by default be entered against Kantarci, in the amount of [REDACTED] as of July 30, 2020, together with lawful interest thereafter, attorneys' fees and costs.

12. I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.



Avery S. Mehlman, Esq.

Dated: July 30, 2020

EXHIBIT A

Moon, Jina

From: "Robinson, Heather"
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2019 2:52 PM
To: jsdeutschesq@aol.com
Cc: Mehlman, Avery
Subject: Cosmopolitan Food Group / Baris Kantarci
Attachments: Filed Complaint and CIS(13082262.1).pdf; Summons to Kantarci(13081746.1) (13085378.1).pdf

Jon,

Please find attached a complaint, case information statement, and summons for an action filed by Cosmopolitan against your client, Baris Kantarci, Friday afternoon.

Please let us know if you are authorized to accept service on behalf of Mr. Kantarci by email.

Regards,



K. Heather Robinson
Associate
Herrick, Feinstein LLP
One Gateway | Newark, NJ 07102
973.274.2006 Office
hrobinson@herrick.com

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., Attorney ID No. 251072017
K. Heather Robinson, Esq. Attorney ID No. 024492006
HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 274-2000

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO.:

CIVIL ACTION

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. (“CFG” or the “Company”), by and through its attorneys, Herrick, Feinstein, LLP, allege and state as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. CFG brings this action to recover from its former President, Baris Kantarci (“Kantarci”), the substantial damages flowing from Kantarci’s breach of fiduciary duties, including the duties of loyalty and good faith, that Kantarci owed to CFG as an officer, employee and agent of the Company. CFG also seeks recovery from Kantarci for his fraud and usurpation of corporate opportunity.

2. During his tenure with CFG, Kantarci behaved antithetically to any basic expectations, the Company’s policies, and the corporate culture. Kantarci sexually harassed a female employee exposing the Company reputationally and financially in a publicly filed lawsuit. Kantarci additionally used the Company’s shipping privileges with United States Customs and shipping account with its vendor, All-Ways, to ship what appear to be energy drinks into the United States presumably for Kantarci’s personal financial benefit and with such action (*i.e.* the

importation of beverages into the United States) of course further exposing the Company to legal liability. As of the date of this filing, the Company has uncovered at least seven months during which Kantarci made repeated unauthorized shipments using the Company's name and resources.

3. Kantarci wrongfully and intentionally engaged in these actions and in doing so breached the trust placed in him by the Company and abused his power and his position for his own personal benefit. Kantarci additionally concealed his wrongdoing in utter disregard for his duties and obligations. His misconduct has substantially damaged the Company.

THE PARTIES

4. Plaintiff CFG is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware with a principal place of business in Hoboken, New Jersey.

5. Defendant Kantarci is the former President of the Company who, upon information and belief, resides in Weehawken, New Jersey.

6. Mr. Kantarci was employed by the Company at its principal place of business in Hoboken, New Jersey, from at or around September 2010 until July 2019, when his employment was terminated for cause.

BACKGROUND

7. Cosmopolitan is a multinational company that has been in the olive oil and gourmet foods business for more than 25 years. Today CFG is on 7 continents, with 3 warehouses and 4 sales offices and is selling its products worldwide in more than 60 countries.

8. CFG supplies large supermarket chains such as Walmart, Shoprite, Stop&Shop, HEB, Winn Dixie, Bi-Lo, Shaws, Market Basket, Delhaize Group, Burlington, Albertsons and TJX Companies in the USA with products that it produces through four plants in the Aegean Region of Turkey, the main agricultural area of the country for Mediterranean style food.

9. Examples of CFG's products include olive oil, vinegars, salad dressings, bruschetta's, sundried tomatoes, capers and peppers.

10. In or around September 2010, CFG hired Kantarci, who came to serve as the President of the Company at CFG's Hoboken location, with all employees in that office reporting to him.

The Sexual Harassment

11. In late February 2019, a female employee filed a legal claim for blatant and egregious sexual harassment committed by Kantarci during his employment with the Company.

12. To wit, the female in issue was employed by the Company for only five days.

13. During her short tenure, Kantarci consistently and repeatedly committed acts of sexual harassment against her, including not only the making of explicit comments but also inappropriate and offensive touching like holding her hands, rubbing and kissing her.

14. On just her fourth day of employment, Kantarci brought her to a strip club while on a business trip in California, with Kantarci's conduct during the evening being so offensive that it culminated in her resignation, early flight home, and the filing of a police report in New Jersey. The female employee provided the Company with video of certain of Kantarci's conduct.

15. CFG was not aware of these issues until it found itself the subject of a lawsuit filed against it.

16. Indeed, upon information and belief, Kantarci received a demand letter from the victim's attorney as early as January 2019, but concealed it from CFG.

17. Once alerted to the situation, CFG investigated the allegations.

18. In attempts to bargain for his continued employment with the Company, Kantarci in the first instance offered to pay all or part of any settlement or judgment against the Company but

thereafter withdrew such commitment. The Company, at any rate, relegated Kantarci to working remotely and thereafter fully and finally terminated his employment as of July 25, 2019.

19. The Company was able to settle the claims for sexual harassment, with the case in issue being closed in or about September 2019. However, the Company suffered hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages in connection with settlement, litigation costs, and other fees.

The Unauthorized Importation of Beverages Into The United States

20. As stated, CFG is in the business of importing goods into the United States.

21. As such, CFG maintains shipping privileges with United States Customs and Border Protection (“CPB”).

22. The importation of food and beverages into the United States is not an insignificant commercial business but instead a heavily regulated activity.

23. Importers of food products intended for introduction into U.S. interstate commerce are responsible for ensuring that the products are safe, sanitary, and labeled according to U.S. requirements.

24. Imported food products are subject to FDA inspection when offered for import at U.S. ports of entry.

25. Beginning on or around July 19, 2019, the FDA began sending a series of Notices of FDA Action regarding a hold designated over energy drinks for which CFG was the alleged importer and consignee.

26. After further investigation it was uncovered that Kantarci had unilaterally given CFG's vendor, All-Ways, approval to use CFG's shipping account for the importation of the energy drinks from exporters in Poland, the Netherlands and South Africa, all without CFG's approval or knowledge, presumptively for his own personal benefit and with such action exposing the Company to possible legal liability and/or FDA action.

27. To date, CFG has uncovered no less than seven months (from at least January – July 2019) during which Kantarci was clandestinely importing goods through the improper and entirely unauthorized use of the Company's name, resources, and privileges for his own benefit.

28. Kantarci knew that the Company would not detect his unauthorized use of the Company's name, resources and privilege because Kantarci told less senior staff that he was the one dealing with all documents regarding arrival notices and invoices.

COUNT I

(Breach of Fiduciary Duty and the Duties of Loyalty and Good Faith)

29. CFG repeats and realleges each and every of the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

30. As an officer, employee and agent of CFG, Kantarci owed the Company fiduciary duties, including the duties of loyalty and good faith. Kantarci had an affirmative duty to act at all times in the Company's best interests and to place the interests of the Company above his own.

31. Kantarci, during his tenure with CFG, instead acted in a manner contrary to the legitimate interests of the Company.

32. Kantarci failed to discharge his fiduciary duties to the Company, including the duties of loyalty and good faith, when he acted against the interests of the Company. Kantarci failed, neglected and refused to exercise the degree of care, skill and diligence required of him.

33. Kantarci breached his fiduciary duty and his duties of loyalty and good faith to CFG.

34. Kantarcis' breaches of his fiduciary duty and of his duties of good faith and loyalty have directly and proximately caused CFG harm.

WHEREFORE, and for the foregoing reasons, the Company respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in its favor and against Kantarci for:

- a) Monetary damages;

- b) Forfeiture and disgorgement of all compensation paid to Kantarci, including salary, bonus payments, and other payments and benefits during the period in which he acted adversely to CFG, lasting at least seven months;
- c) Interest, costs of suit and attorneys' fees;
- d) Punitive damages; and
- e) Such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

COUNT II

(Faithless Servant)

35. CFG repeats and realleges each and every of the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

36. Kantarci was an employee and agent of the Company. As President, Kantarci reported directly to the Board of Directors.

37. As an employee and agent of the Company, Kantarci owed fiduciary duties of loyalty and good faith to the Company. Kantarci had an affirmative duty at all times to be loyal to the Company and to avoid acting in any manner inconsistent with his agency. He was at all time bound to exercise the utmost good faith and loyalty in the performance of his duties.

38. Kantarci breached his fiduciary duties of loyalty and good faith when he acted adversely to the Company and for his own personal benefit.

39. Kantarci's disloyal activity was related to the performance of his duties.

40. These breaches permeated Kantarci's services as an executive employee in material and substantial parts of his employment with CFG.

41. Kantarci's actions have directly and proximately caused CFG harm.

WHEREFORE, and for the foregoing reasons, the Company respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in its favor and against Kantarci for:

- a) Forfeiture and disgorgement of all compensation paid to Kantarci, including salary, bonus payments, and other payments and benefits during the period in which he acted adversely to CFG, lasting at least seven months;
- b) Interest, costs of suit and attorneys' fees;
- c) Such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

COUNT III

(Usurpation of Corporate Opportunity)

42. CFG repeats and realleges each and every of the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

43. Kantarci has engaged in surreptitious transactions using the Company's name, resources and privileges to benefit financially and to the exclusion of the Company.

44. The transactions in issue are properly corporate opportunities for the importation of foodstuffs and/or beverages.

45. By his acts described above, Kantarci has usurped the corporate opportunities of CFG and/or secretly profited from this competitive activity.

46. Kantarci's actions were willful, wanton, malicious and in reckless disregard for CFG's rights.

47. As a result, CFG has been damaged.

WHEREFORE, and for the foregoing reasons, the Company respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in its favor and against Kantarci for:

- a) Money damages for the value of the lost opportunity;
- b) Forfeiture and disgorgement of all secret profit; interest, costs of suit and attorneys' fees;
- c) Punitive damages; and

d) Such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: December 13, 2019

HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
Attorneys for Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

By: /s/ Avery S. Mehlman
Avery S. Mehlman

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 4:5-1

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the matter in controversy is not the subject of any action pending in any other court or of a pending arbitration proceeding, nor is any other action or arbitration proceeding contemplated. I know of no other parties other than the parties set forth in this pleading who should be joined in the above action.

Dated: December 13, 2019

/s/ Avery S. Mehlman

Avery S. Mehlman

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial by jury as to all issues so triable.

Dated: December 13, 2019

/s/ Avery S. Mehlman

Avery S. Mehlman

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., of the firm of Herrick, Feinstein LLP, is hereby designated as trial counsel for the plaintiffs in the above-captioned matter.

Dated: December 13, 2019

/s/ Avery S. Mehlman

Avery S. Mehlman

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 1:38-7(B)

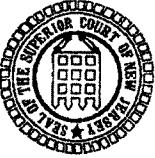
I hereby certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the Court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with Rule 1:38-7(b).

Dated: December 13, 2019

/s/ Avery S. Mehlman

Avery S. Mehlman

Appendix XII-B1

		Civil Case Information Statement (CIS)		For Use by Clerk's Office Only
		Use for initial Law Division Civil Part pleadings (not motions) under Rule 4:5-1 Pleading will be rejected for filing, under Rule 1:5-6(c), if information above the black bar is not completed or attorney's signature is not affixed		Payment type: <input type="checkbox"/> ck <input type="checkbox"/> cg <input type="checkbox"/> ca Chg/Ck Number: Amount: Overpayment: Batch Number:
Attorney/Pro Se Name Avery S. Mehlman		Telephone Number 973-274-2000	County of Venue Hudson	
Firm Name (if applicable) Herrick, Feinstein LLP		Docket Number (when available)		
Office Address One Gateway Center Newark, New Jersey 07102		Document Type Complaint Jury Demand <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Name of Party (e.g., John Doe, Plaintiff) Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.	Caption Cosmopolitan Food Group v. Baris Kantarci			
Case Type Number (See reverse side for listing) 509	Is this a professional malpractice case? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If you have checked "Yes," see N.J.S.A. 2A:53A-27 and applicable case law regarding your obligation to file an affidavit of merit.			
Related Cases Pending? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If "Yes," list docket numbers			
Do you anticipate adding any parties (arising out of same transaction or occurrence)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Name of defendant's primary insurance company (if known) <input type="checkbox"/> None <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown			
The Information Provided on This Form Cannot be Introduced into Evidence.				
Case Characteristics for Purposes of Determining if Case is Appropriate for Mediation				
Do parties have a current, past or recurrent relationship? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If "Yes," is that relationship: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employer/Employee <input type="checkbox"/> Friend/Neighbor <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain) <input type="checkbox"/> Familial <input type="checkbox"/> Business			
Does the statute governing this case provide for payment of fees by the losing party? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
Use this space to alert the court to any special case characteristics that may warrant individual management or accelerated disposition				
 Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please identify the requested accommodation:			
Will an interpreter be needed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, for what language?			
I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with Rule 1:38-7(b).				
Attorney Signature: 				

Side 2



CIVIL CASE INFORMATION STATEMENT (CIS)

Use for initial pleadings (not motions) under Rule 4:5-1

CASE TYPES (Choose one and enter number of case type in appropriate space on the reverse side.)

Track I - 150 days' discovery

- 151 NAME CHANGE
- 175 FORFEITURE
- 302 TENANCY
- 399 REAL PROPERTY (other than Tenancy, Contract, Condemnation, Complex Commercial or Construction)
- 502 BOOK ACCOUNT (debt collection matters only)
- 505 OTHER INSURANCE CLAIM (including declaratory judgment actions)
- 506 PIP COVERAGE
- 510 UM or UIM CLAIM (coverage issues only)
- 511 ACTION ON NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT
- 512 LEMON LAW
- 801 SUMMARY ACTION
- 802 OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT (summary action)
- 999 OTHER (briefly describe nature of action)

Track II - 300 days' discovery

- 305 CONSTRUCTION
- 509 EMPLOYMENT (other than CEPA or LAD)
- 599 CONTRACT/COMMERCIAL TRANSACTION
- 603N AUTO NEGLIGENCE - PERSONAL INJURY (non-verbal threshold)
- 603Y AUTO NEGLIGENCE - PERSONAL INJURY (verbal threshold)
- 605 PERSONAL INJURY
- 610 AUTO NEGLIGENCE - PROPERTY DAMAGE
- 621 UM or UIM CLAIM (includes bodily injury)
- 699 TORT - OTHER

Track III - 450 days' discovery

- 005 CIVIL RIGHTS
- 301 CONDEMNATION
- 602 ASSAULT AND BATTERY
- 604 MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
- 606 PRODUCT LIABILITY
- 607 PROFESSIONAL MALPRACTICE
- 608 TOXIC TORT
- 609 DEFAMATION
- 616 WHISTLEBLOWER / CONSCIENTIOUS EMPLOYEE PROTECTION ACT (CEPA) CASES
- 617 INVERSE CONDEMNATION
- 618 LAW AGAINST DISCRIMINATION (LAD) CASES

Track IV - Active Case Management by Individual Judge / 450 days' discovery

- 156 ENVIRONMENTAL/ENVIRONMENTAL COVERAGE LITIGATION
- 303 MT. LAUREL
- 508 COMPLEX COMMERCIAL
- 513 COMPLEX CONSTRUCTION
- 514 INSURANCE FRAUD
- 620 FALSE CLAIMS ACT
- 701 ACTIONS IN LIEU OF PREROGATIVE WRITS

Multicounty Litigation (Track IV)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 271 ACCUTANE/ISOTRETINOIN | 297 MIRENA CONTRACEPTIVE DEVICE |
| 274 RISPERDAL/SEROQUEL/ZYPREXA | 299 OLMESARTAN MEDOXOMIL MEDICATIONS/BENICAR |
| 281 BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB ENVIRONMENTAL | 300 TALC-BASED BODY POWDERS |
| 282 FOSAMAX | 601 ASBESTOS |
| 285 STRYKER TRIDENT HIP IMPLANTS | 623 PROPECIA |
| 286 LEVAQUIN | 624 STRYKER LFIT CoCr V40 FEMORAL HEADS |
| 289 REGLAN | 625 FIREFIGHTER HEARING LOSS LITIGATION |
| 291 PELVIC MESH/GYNECARE | 626 ABILIFY |
| 292 PELVIC MESH/BARD | 627 PHYSIOMESH FLEXIBLE COMPOSITE MESH |
| 293 DEPUY ASR HIP IMPLANT LITIGATION | 628 TAXOTERE/DOCETAXEL |
| 295 ALLODERM REGENERATIVE TISSUE MATRIX | 629 ZOSTAVAX |
| 296 STRYKER REJUVENATE/ABG II MODULAR HIP STEM COMPONENTS | 630 PROCEED MESH/PATCH |

If you believe this case requires a track other than that provided above, please indicate the reason on Side 1, in the space under "Case Characteristics."

Please check off each applicable category Putative Class Action Title 59

Civil Case Information Statement

Case Details: HUDSON | Civil Part Docket# L-004847-19

Case Caption: COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GR OUP, INC. VS KANTARCI BARIS

Case Initiation Date: 12/13/2019

Attorney Name: AVERY S MEHLMAN

Firm Name: HERRICK FEINSTEIN, LLP

Address: 2 PARK AVE

NEW YORK NY 10016

Phone: 2125921400

Name of Party: PLAINTIFF : Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

Name of Defendant's Primary Insurance Company

(if known): None

Case Type: EMPLOYMENT (OTHER THAN CEPA OR LAD)

Document Type: Complaint with Jury Demand

Jury Demand: YES - 6 JURORS

Is this a professional malpractice case? NO

Related cases pending: NO

If yes, list docket numbers:

Do you anticipate adding any parties (arising out of same transaction or occurrence)? NO

THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS FORM CANNOT BE INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE

CASE CHARACTERISTICS FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING IF CASE IS APPROPRIATE FOR MEDIATION

Do parties have a current, past, or recurrent relationship? NO

If yes, is that relationship:

Does the statute governing this case provide for payment of fees by the losing party? NO

Use this space to alert the court to any special case characteristics that may warrant individual management or accelerated disposition:

Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? NO

If yes, please identify the requested accommodation:

Will an interpreter be needed? NO

If yes, for what language:

Please check off each applicable category: Putative Class Action? NO

Title 59? NO

I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with Rule 1:38-7(b)

12/13/2019
Dated

/s/ Avery S Mehlman
Signed

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., Attorney ID No. 251072017
K. Heather Robinson, Esq. Attorney ID No. 024492006
HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 274-2000

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO.: HUD-L-004847-19

CIVIL ACTION

SUMMONS

From The State of New Jersey To The Defendant(s) Named Above:

The Plaintiff, named above, has filed a lawsuit against you in the Superior Court of New Jersey. The Complaint attached to this summons states the basis for this lawsuit. If you dispute this Complaint, you or your attorney must file a written answer or motion and proof of service with the deputy clerk of the Superior Court in the county listed above within 35 days from the date you received this summons, not counting the date you received it. (A directory of the addresses of each deputy clerk of the Superior Court is available in the Civil Division Management Office in the county listed above and online at http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/prose/10153_deptyclerklawref.pdf.) If the Third-Party Complaint is one in foreclosure, then you must file your written answer or motion and proof of service with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Complex, P.O. Box 971, Trenton, NJ 08625-0971. A filing fee payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey and a completed Case Information Statement (available from the deputy clerk of the Superior Court) must accompany your answer or motion when it is filed. You must also send a copy of your answer or motion to Plaintiff's attorney whose name and address appear above, or to Plaintiff, if no attorney is named above. A telephone call will not protect your rights; you must file and serve a written answer or motion (with fee of \$135.00 and completed Case Information Statement) if you want the court to hear your defense.

If you do not file and serve a written answer or motion within 35 days, the court may enter a judgment against you for the relief Plaintiff's demand, plus interest and costs of suit. If judgment is entered against you, the Sheriff may seize your money, wages or property to pay all or part of the judgment.

If you cannot afford an attorney, you may call the Legal Services office in the county where you live or the Legal Services of New Jersey Statewide Hotline at 1-888-LSNJ-LAW (1-888-576-

5529). If you do not have an attorney and are not eligible for free legal assistance, you may obtain a referral to an attorney by calling one of the Lawyer Referral Services. A directory with contact information for local Legal Services Offices and Lawyer Referral Services is available in the Civil Division Management Office in the county listed above and online at http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/prose/10153_deptyclerklawref.pdf.

/s/ Michelle M. Smith

Clerk of the Superior Court

Dated: December 13, 2019

Name and Address of Defendant to Be Served:

Baris Kantarci
1500 Harbor Blvd. Apt. 524
Weehawken, New Jersey 07086

EXHIBIT B

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., Attorney ID No. 251072017
K. Heather Robinson, Esq. Attorney ID No. 024492006
HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 274-2000

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO.: HUD-L-004847-19

CIVIL ACTION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SERVICE

On this 14th day of January, 2020, the undersigned hereby acknowledges and accepts service by email on behalf of defendant Baris Kantarci of the Summons, Complaint, and Case Information Statement filed by plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. in connection with the above-captioned civil action.

Attorney for Defendant Baris Kantarci

Jon S. Deutsch, Esq.

Dated: January 14, 2020

EXHIBIT C

-1-

JON S. DEUTSCH
Attorney ID # 037771987
7 Codington Lane
Warren, New Jersey 07059
(732) 925-3036
FAX (732) 271-2761
jsdeutsch@ao.com

Attorneys for Defendant, Baris Kantarci

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION: HUDSON COUNTY**

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.,

CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff,

Docket No. HUD-L-004847-19

vs.

BARIS KANTARCI,

ORDER RELIEVING COUNSEL

Defendant.

THIS MATTER being opened to the court by, Jon S. Deutsch Esq, Attorney for Defendant, upon application to be relieved as counsel, and the court having reviewed the papers in support of the within application and any opposing papers, and good cause appearing:

IT IS on this 24th day of April, 2020:

-2-

ORDERED that Jon S. Deutsch, ESQ., is hereby relieved
counsel for Defendant, BARIS KANTARCI, and has no further
obligation in this matter, and

ORDERED that Defendant, BARIS KANTARCI, shall be given 30
additional days to retain new Counsel.

UNOPPOSED by Mr. Katarci. GRANTED for reasons set forth on the record on April 24, 2020.
Until a substitution of attorney is filed, Defendant Kantarci will be
treated as self-represented. All court notices shall be sent
to Defendant Kantarci at 1500 Harbor Blvd., Apt. 524,
Weehawken, NJ 07086. Default is hereby entered.
Counsel for Plaintiff shall either file a motion for judgment
or request a Proof Hearing and fully comply with R. 4:43-1 & 2.
Failure to so move may result in R. 1:13-7 sanctions at the
expiration of 120 days from the date of this Order.

Mary K. Costello
J.S.C.

Mary K. Costello, J.S.C.

EXHIBIT D

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., Attorney ID No. 251072017
Jina Moon, Esq. Attorney ID No. 019552012
HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 274-2000

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO.: HUD-L-004847-19

CIVIL ACTION

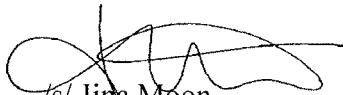
**CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE OF
JINA MOON**

JINA MOON, of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

1. I am an attorney-at-law of the State of New Jersey and associated with the law firm of Herrick, Feinstein LLP, attorneys for plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. in the above-entitled action. In this capacity, I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein.
2. On the date set forth below, I caused the Order Relieving Counsel to be served by regular mail and certified mail, return receipt requested, upon:

Baris Kantarci
1500 Harbor Blvd., Apt 524
Weehawken, New Jersey 07086

3. I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.



/s/ Jina Moon
JINA MOON

Dated: July 2, 2020

EXHIBIT E



**Status Report
Pursuant to Servicemembers Civil Relief Act**

SSN: XXX-XX-8521
 Birth Date: Apr-XX-1986
 Last Name: KANTARCI
 First Name: BARIS
 Middle Name:
 Status As Of: May-11-2020
 Certificate ID: G3VS74BK6F46Z32

On Active Duty On Active Duty Status Date			
Active Duty Start Date	Active Duty End Date	Status	Service Component
NA	NA	No	NA
This response reflects the individuals' active duty status based on the Active Duty Status Date			

Left Active Duty Within 367 Days of Active Duty Status Date			
Active Duty Start Date	Active Duty End Date	Status	Service Component
NA	NA	No	NA
This response reflects where the individual left active duty status within 367 days preceding the Active Duty Status Date			

The Member or His/Her Unit Was Notified of a Future Call-Up to Active Duty on Active Duty Status Date			
Order Notification Start Date	Order Notification End Date	Status	Service Component
NA	NA	No	NA
This response reflects whether the individual or his/her unit has received early notification to report for active duty			

Upon searching the data banks of the Department of Defense Manpower Data Center, based on the information that you provided, the above is the status of the individual on the active duty status date as to all branches of the Uniformed Services (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, NOAA, Public Health, and Coast Guard). This status includes information on a Servicemember or his/her unit receiving notification of future orders to report for Active Duty.

Michael V. Sorrento

Michael V. Sorrento, Director
 Department of Defense - Manpower Data Center
 400 Gigling Rd.
 Seaside, CA 93955

Exhibit Exhibits Fox Alert Action Page 69 of 86 Page 82 of 119

The Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) is an organization of the Department of Defense (DoD) that maintains the Defense Enrollment and Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) database which is the official source of data on eligibility for military medical care and other eligibility systems.

The DoD strongly supports the enforcement of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 USC App. ? 501 et seq, as amended) (SCRA) (formerly known as the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940). DMDC has issued hundreds of thousands of "does not possess any information indicating that the individual is currently on active duty" responses, and has experienced only a small error rate. In the event the individual referenced above, or any family member, friend, or representative asserts in any manner that the individual was on active duty for the active duty status date, or is otherwise entitled to the protections of the SCRA, you are strongly encouraged to obtain further verification of the person's status by contacting that person's Service. Service contact information can be found on the SCRA website's FAQ page (Q33) via this URL: <https://scra.dmdc.osd.mil/faq.xhtml#Q33>. If you have evidence the person was on active duty for the active duty status date and you fail to obtain this additional Service verification, punitive provisions of the SCRA may be invoked against you. See 50 USC App. ? 521(c).

This response reflects the following information: (1) The individual's Active Duty status on the Active Duty Status Date (2) Whether the individual left Active Duty status within 367 days preceding the Active Duty Status Date (3) Whether the individual or his/her unit received early notification to report for active duty on the Active Duty Status Date.

More information on "Active Duty Status"

Active duty status as reported in this certificate is defined in accordance with 10 USC ? 101(d) (1). Prior to 2010 only some of the active duty periods less than 30 consecutive days in length were available. In the case of a member of the National Guard, this includes service under a call to active service authorized by the President or the Secretary of Defense under 32 USC ? 502(f) for purposes of responding to a national emergency declared by the President and supported by Federal funds. All Active Guard Reserve (AGR) members must be assigned against an authorized mobilization position in the unit they support. This includes Navy Training and Administration of the Reserves (TARs), Marine Corps Active Reserve (ARs) and Coast Guard Reserve Program Administrator (RPAs). Active Duty status also applies to a Uniformed Service member who is an active duty commissioned officer of the U.S. Public Health Service or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Commissioned Corps).

Coverage Under the SCRA is Broader in Some Cases

Coverage under the SCRA is broader in some cases and includes some categories of persons on active duty for purposes of the SCRA who would not be reported as on Active Duty under this certificate. SCRA protections are for Title 10 and Title 14 active duty records for all the Uniformed Services periods. Title 32 periods of Active Duty are not covered by SCRA, as defined in accordance with 10 USC ? 101(d)(1).

Many times orders are amended to extend the period of active duty, which would extend SCRA protections. Persons seeking to rely on this website certification should check to make sure the orders on which SCRA protections are based have not been amended to extend the inclusive dates of service. Furthermore, some protections of the SCRA may extend to persons who have received orders to report for active duty or to be inducted, but who have not actually begun active duty or actually reported for induction. The Last Date on Active Duty entry is important because a number of protections of the SCRA extend beyond the last dates of active duty.

Those who could rely on this certificate are urged to seek qualified legal counsel to ensure that all rights guaranteed to Service members under the SCRA are protected

WARNING: This certificate was provided based on a last name, SSN/date of birth, and active duty status date provided by the requester. Providing erroneous information will cause an erroneous certificate to be provided.

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., Attorney ID No. 251072017
Jina Moon, Esq. Attorney ID No. 019552012
HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 274-2000

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO.: HUD-L-004847-19

CIVIL ACTION

CERTIFICATION OF AMOUNT DUE

GREG TOBIAS, of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

1. I am the General Manager of Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. ("Cosmopolitan"), the plaintiff in this action. As such, I am fully familiar with the facts and circumstances set forth herein and am authorized to make this Certification of Amount Due in support of Plaintiff's application for entry of final judgment against Defendant Baris Kantarci ("Kantarci") in the total amount of [REDACTED]

2. Upon information and belief, Kantarci is an individual and resident of the State of New Jersey, with an address at 1500 Harbor Blvd., Apt. 524, Weehawken, New Jersey 07086.

BACKGROUND

3. Cosmopolitan brought this action to recover from its former President, Baris Kantarci ("Kantarci"), the substantial damages flowing from Kantarci's breach of fiduciary duties, including the duties of loyalty and good faith, that Kantarci owed to Cosmopolitan as an officer,

employee and agent of Cosmopolitan. Cosmopolitan also seeks recovery from Kantarci for his fraud and usurpation of corporate opportunity.

Damages Resulting From Sexual Harassment Claim Against Kantarci

4. During his tenure as President of Cosmopolitan, Kantarci reported directly to Cosmopolitan's Board of Directors. However, during that time, Kantarci behaved antithetically to any basic expectations of a fiduciary, Cosmopolitan's policies, and the corporate culture.

5. First, Kantarci sexually harassed a female employee exposing Cosmopolitan reputationally and financially in a publicly filed lawsuit. That female employee filed a legal claim in late February 2019 for blatant and egregious sexual harassment committed by Kantarci during his employment with Cosmopolitan.

6. To wit, the female in issue was employed by Cosmopolitan for only five days in the beginning of January 2019.

7. During her short tenure, Kantarci consistently and repeatedly committed acts of sexual harassment against her, including not only the making of explicit comments but also engaged inappropriate and offensive touching like holding her hands, rubbing and kissing her.

8. For example, on just her fourth day of employment, Kantarci brought her to a strip club while on a business trip in California, with Kantarci's conduct during the evening being so offensive that it culminated in her resignation, early flight home, and the filing of a police report in New Jersey. The female employee provided Cosmopolitan with video of certain of Kantarci's conduct.

9. Cosmopolitan was not aware of these issues until it found itself the subject of a lawsuit filed against it.

10. Indeed, upon information and belief, Kantarci received a demand letter from the victim's attorney as early as January 2019, but concealed it from Cosmopolitan.

11. Once alerted to the situation, Cosmopolitan investigated the allegations.

12. In attempts to bargain for his continued employment with Cosmopolitan, Kantarci in the first instance offered to pay all or part of any settlement or judgment against Cosmopolitan but thereafter withdrew such commitment. Cosmopolitan, at any rate, relegated Kantarci to working remotely and thereafter fully and finally terminated his employment as of July 25, 2019.

13. Cosmopolitan was able to settle the claims for sexual harassment for [REDACTED] with the case in issue being closed in or about September 2019. A true and correct copy of the wire transfers to complainant's counsel in the sexual harassment action is attached hereto as **EXHIBIT 1**. Additionally, as explained in the Certificate of Attorneys' Fees, Cosmopolitan suffered damages in the form of litigation costs and other fees.

The Unauthorized Importation of Beverages Into The United States

14. Cosmopolitan is in the business of importing goods into the United States. As such, Cosmopolitan maintains shipping privileges with United States Customs and Border Protection ("CPB").

15. The importation of food and beverages into the United States is not an insignificant commercial business but instead a heavily regulated activity. Importers of food products intended for introduction into U.S. interstate commerce are responsible for ensuring that the products are safe, sanitary, and labeled according to U.S. requirements. Therefore, imported food products are subject to FDA inspection when offered for import at U.S. ports of entry.

16. Beginning on or around July 19, 2019, the FDA began sending a series of Notices of FDA Action regarding a hold designated over energy drinks for which Cosmopolitan was the alleged importer and consignee.

17. Upon investigation, it was uncovered that Kantarci had used Cosmopolitan's shipping privileges with United States Customs and unilaterally gave Cosmopolitan's vendor, All-Ways, approval to use Cosmopolitan's shipping account for the importation of the energy drinks from exporters in Poland, the Netherlands and South Africa, presumably for his own personal benefit and without Cosmopolitan's approval or knowledge.

18. As of the date of that the Complaint was filed, Cosmopolitan has uncovered no less than seven months (from at least January – July 2019) during which Kantarci was clandestinely and intentionally importing goods through the improper and entirely unauthorized use of Cosmopolitan's name, resources, and privileges for his own benefit and exposing Cosmopolitan to possible legal liability and/or FDA action.

19. Kantarci concealed his wrongdoing in utter disregard for his duties and obligations as an officer, employee and agent of Cosmopolitan. He knew that Cosmopolitan would not detect his unauthorized use of Cosmopolitan's name, resources and privilege because Kantarci told less senior staff that he was the one dealing with all documents regarding arrival notices and invoices.

20. Kantarci wrongfully and intentionally engaged in these actions and in doing so breached the trust placed in him by Cosmopolitan and abused his power and his position for his own personal benefit. Kantarci additionally concealed his wrongdoing in utter disregard for his duties and obligations. His misconduct has substantially damaged Cosmopolitan.

21. Because of Kantarci's unauthorized activity, Cosmopolitan was fined liquidated damages in the amount of [REDACTED]. A true and correct copy of the Department of Homeland

Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Notice of Penalty or Liquidated Damages Incurred and Demand for Payment 19 USC 1618 and 19 USC 1623 is attached hereto as **EXHIBIT 2**.

Disgorgement of Compensation

22. Because Kantarci breached his fiduciary duties to Cosmopolitan, including the duties of loyalty and good faith, Cosmopolitan is owed the forfeiture and disgorgement of all compensation paid to Kantarci, including salary, bonus payments, and other payments and benefits during the period in which he acted adversely to Cosmopolitan, which occurred at least since January 2019.

23. According to Plaintiff's books and records, Kantarci was paid a gross amount of [REDACTED] (net amount of [REDACTED]) for his employment from January 1, 2019 through July 25, 2019, when he was terminated. A true and correct copy of Kantarci's W-2 showing his total wages for his employment in 2019 is attached hereto as **EXHIBIT 3**.

24. According to Plaintiff's books and records, Cosmopolitan paid a total of [REDACTED] for his health benefits. A true and correct copy of the Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield bills showing the payments Cosmopolitan made on behalf of Kantarci is attached hereto as **EXHIBIT 4**.

25. Kantarci is not an infant or incompetent person.

26. There are no just debts, set-offs, credits or allowances due or to become due from Cosmopolitan to Kantarci, other than those set forth herein.

27. Kantarci is not in the military service of the United States of America, as noted in the Certification in Support of Entry of Final Judgment By Default Against Defendant Baris Kantarci.

28. This claim is not based upon a writ of attachment, capias ad respondendum, replevin, or upon the sale of chattel which has been repossessed peaceably or by legal process.

29. I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.



GREG TOBIAS

Dated: July 15, 2020

[Exhibits Redacted]

The exhibits referred to in the above certification have been redacted due to length, but may be furnished upon request.

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., Attorney ID No. 251072017
Jina Moon, Esq. Attorney ID No. 019552012
HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 274-2000

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO.: HUD-L-004847-19

CIVIL ACTION

**CERTIFICATION OF ATTORNEYS'
FEES**

AVERY S. MEHLMAN, of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

1. I am an attorney-at-law of the State of New Jersey and a partner with the firm of Herrick, Feinstein LLP ("Herrick"), attorneys of plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. ("Plaintiff") in the above-captioned matter. I make this Certification in support of Plaintiff's application for entry of Final Judgment by Default against Defendant Baris Kantarci ("Kantarci") in the above-captioned matter.

2. The total amount of attorneys' fees and costs incurred in prosecuting this action on behalf of Plaintiff is the aggregate amount of \$111,360.30 as of July 17, 2020, broken down as follows:

Settlement of Sexual Harassment Lawsuit For Kantarci's Behavior

A. Attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is a copy of Invoice No. 342920, dated July 8, 2019, for legal services rendered through May 31, 2019, in the amount of \$29,918.00, plus

expenses posted through May 31, 2019, in the amount of \$70.86, for a total amount due of \$29,988.86.

B. Attached hereto as Exhibit "B" is a copy of Invoice No. 343500, dated July 24, 2019, for legal services rendered through June 30, 2019, in the amount of \$12,217.50, plus expenses posted through June 30, 2019, in the amount of \$2.52, less 10%, for a total amount due of \$10,998.27.

C. Attached hereto as Exhibit "C" is a copy of Invoice No. 345267, dated September 9, 2019, for legal services rendered through July 31, 2019, in the amount of \$8,152.50, plus no expenses posted through July 31, 2019, for a total amount due of \$8,152.50.

Legal Services Rendered in Connection with the Above-Captioned Action

D. Attached hereto as Exhibit "D" is a copy of Invoice No. 345947, dated September 27, 2019, for legal services rendered through August 31, 2019, in the amount of \$4,500.00, less 10%, plus no expenses posted through August 31, 2019, for a total amount due of \$4,050.00.

E. Attached hereto as Exhibit "E" is a copy of Invoice No. 348438, dated November 27, 2019, for legal services rendered through October 31, 2019, in the amount of \$15,307.50, less 10%, plus expenses posted through October 31, 2019, in the amount of \$122.34, for a total amount due of \$13,899.09.

F. Attached hereto as Exhibit "F" is a copy of Invoice No. 349188, dated December 17, 2019, for legal services rendered through November 30, 2019, in the amount of \$10,432.50, less 10%, plus no expenses posted through August 31, 2019, for a total amount due of \$9,389.25.

G. Attached hereto as Exhibit "G" is a copy of Invoice No. 350536, dated January 28, 2020, for legal services rendered through December 31, 2019, in the amount of \$10,342.50, less 10%, plus expenses posted through December 31, 2020, in the amount of \$411.45, for a total amount due of \$9,719.70.

H. Attached hereto as Exhibit "H" is a copy of Invoice No. 351401, dated February 21, 2020, for legal services rendered through January 31, 2020, in the amount of \$1,666.00, less 10%, plus expenses posted through January 31, 2020, in the amount of \$6.53, for a total amount due of \$1,505.93.

I. Attached hereto as Exhibit "I" is a copy of Invoice No. 352335, dated March 16, 2020, for legal services rendered through February 29, 2020, less 10%, in the amount of \$1,991.50, plus expenses posted through March 31, 2020, in the amount of \$6.53, for a total amount due of \$1,798.88.

J. Attached hereto as Exhibit "J" is a copy of Invoice No. 353326, dated April 7, 2020, for legal services rendered through March 31, 2020, in the amount of \$721.00, less 10%, plus expenses posted through March 31, 2020, in the amount of \$6.53, for a total amount due of \$655.43.

K. Attached hereto as Exhibit "K" is a copy of Invoice No. 354493, dated May 13, 2020 for legal services rendered through April 30, 2020, in the amount of \$1,320.00, less 10%, plus expenses posted through April 30, 2020, in the amount of \$6.53, for a total amount due of \$1,194.53.

L. Attached hereto as Exhibit "L" is a copy of Invoice No. 355663, dated June 16, 2020 for legal services rendered through May 31, 2020, in the amount of \$16,720.50, less 10%,

plus expenses posted through May 31, 2020, in the amount of \$56.53, for a total amount due of \$15,104.98.

M. Attached hereto as Exhibit "M" is a copy of Invoice No.356585, dated July 17, 2020 for legal services rendered through June 30, 2020, in the amount of \$5,051.50, less 10%, plus expenses posted through June 30, 2020, in the amount of \$6.53, for a total amount due of \$4,552.88.

N. Attached hereto as Exhibit "N" is a copy of the court fees incurred by CFG in the above-captioned matter in the total amount of \$350.

3. The fees incurred represent charges based upon the hourly billing rates of (i) Avery S. Mehlman, a partner with the firm, at the rate of \$675.00, Barbaros Karaahmet, a partner with the firm, at the rate of \$750.00, Carol Goodman, a partner with the firm, at the rate of \$725.00, Michelle M. Sekowski, a Counsel with the firm, at the rate of \$565.00; Heather Robinson, a former associate with the firm, at the rate of \$450.00; Jina Moon, an associate with the firm, at the rate of \$480.00; and Teresa Barrett, a paralegal with the firm, at the rate of \$290.00 per hour.

4. I am a partner in Herrick's litigation department and was admitted to practice law in New Jersey in 2017. My practice has consisted primarily of commercial litigation and employment law. I am the attorney who has been primarily responsible for this matter, and the defense of CFG in the sexual harassment lawsuit stemming from Kantarci's actions, which is mentioned in the complaint.

5. Barbaros Karaahmet is a partner in Herrick's real estate and corporate departments and serves as co-chair of Herrick's Turkish Practice Group. His practice includes assisting Herrick's multinational and Turkish clients with domestic and cross-border corporate, financial, real estate and litigation matters. Mr. Karaahmet is the relationship partner and provided assistance

to obtain the relief sought in this action, and in the defense of CFG in the sexual harassment lawsuit stemming from Kantarci's actions, which is mentioned in the complaint.

6. Carol Goodman is a partner of and co-chair of Herrick's litigation department. Her practice focuses on complex commercial litigation and employment law for public and private companies. She provided assistance to obtain the relief sought in this action, and in the defense of CFG in the sexual harassment lawsuit stemming from Kantarci's actions, which is mentioned in the complaint.

7. Michelle M. Sekowski is Counsel in Herrick's litigation department. Her practice focused on complex commercial litigation and employment law. She provided assistance to obtain the relief sought in this action, and in the defense of CFG in the sexual harassment lawsuit stemming from Kantarci's actions, which is mentioned in the complaint.

8. Heather K. Robinson is a former of-counsel in Herrick's litigation department. Her practice focused on complex commercial litigation and employment law. She provided assistance to obtain the relief sought in this action, and in the defense of CFG in the sexual harassment lawsuit stemming from Kantarci's actions, which is mentioned in the complaint.

9. Jina Moon is an associate in Herrick's litigation department. Her practice focuses on complex commercial litigation and employment law. She provided assistance to obtain the relief sought in this action, and in the defense of CFG in the sexual harassment lawsuit stemming from Kantarci's actions, which is mentioned in the complaint.

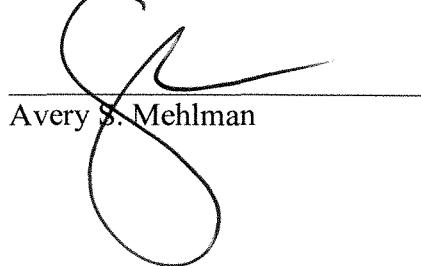
10. Teresa M. Barrett is a litigation paralegal employed by Herrick. Ms. Barrett provided assistance to obtain the relief sought in this action, and in the defense of CFG in the sexual harassment lawsuit stemming from Kantarci's actions, which is mentioned in the complaint.

11. Due to Kantarci's bad acts, Plaintiff is entitled to recover all reasonable attorneys' fees and the costs of collection.

12. These services and disbursements were actually rendered by Herrick, and were reasonably necessary for the representation of Plaintiff in connection with the prosecution of this action, and the defense of CFG in the sexual harassment lawsuit stemming from Kantarci's actions, from April 2019 through the present.

13. Herrick is a regional law firm with several offices, including offices in New York, New York and Newark, New Jersey. Herrick also maintains an office in Istanbul, Turkey. Herrick has approximately 130 attorneys, and charges rates competitive with other peer firms of similar size, stature and experience.

14. I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.



Avery S. Mehlman

Dated: July 30, 2020

[Exhibits Redacted]

The exhibits referred to in the above certification have been redacted due to length, but may be furnished upon request.

EXHIBIT F

Avery S. Mehlman, Esq., Attorney ID No. 251072017
Jina Moon, Esq. Attorney ID No. 019552012
HERRICK, FEINSTEIN LLP
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 274-2000

Attorneys for Plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc.

COSMOPOLITAN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Plaintiff,

v.

BARIS KANTARCI

Defendant.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
HUDSON COUNTY: LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO.: HUD-L-004847-19

CIVIL ACTION

**FINAL JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT
AGAINST BARIS KANTARCI**

Defendant Baris Kantarci (“Kantarci”), having been duly served with process and a copy of the Complaint in the above-captioned action, and having been defaulted for failure to answer, appear or otherwise move as to the Complaint; and Kantarci not being an infant or incompetent person; and plaintiff Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. (“Plaintiff”) having filed a certification setting forth a particular statement of the items of the claim, including the amounts and dates, a calculation in figures of the amount of interest, the payments or credits, if any, and the net amount due;

FINAL JUDGMENT is on this 11th day of September, 2020, signed and entered
484,825.76
in the sum of \$ [REDACTED], as of July 30, 2020, plus attorneys’ fees and costs in the amount of \$111,360.30, as of July 30, 2020, plus post-judgment interest on and after the date of this Judgment
in favor of plaintiff, Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc., and against Defendant upon notice to all parties, for an Order entering default judgment in the above-captioned action; the defaulting party

has been properly served; the address for service has not changed; the time for defendant to answer has expired and has not otherwise been extended; and it appearing that acknowledgement of service have been filed herein; and it further appearing that no opposition to said application has been filed; and for good cause shown;

IT IS on this 11th day of September, 2020,

ORDERED that default judgment is hereby entered against defendant Baris Kantarci.

The court considered the courtesy copy and exhibits 1 through 4 and Exhibits A through M submitted for in camera review. Moving party fully complied with R. 4:43-2. This application was unopposed.

Total amount of judgment is \$596,186.06

Mary K. Costello

HON. MARY J. COSTELLO, J.S.C.

MKC

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

In the matter of:

Debtor

Plaintiff(s)

Case No. _____

v.

Adversary No. _____

Defendant(s)

**SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF PRETRIAL CONFERENCE
IN AN ADVERSARY PROCEEDING**

YOU ARE SUMMONED and required to submit a motion or answer to the complaint which is attached to this summons to the clerk of the bankruptcy court within 30 days after the date of issuance of this summons, except that the United States and its offices and agencies shall file a motion or answer to the complaint within 35 days.

Address of Clerk

Name and Address of
Plaintiff's Attorney

At the same time, you must also serve a copy of the motion or answer upon the plaintiff's attorney.

If you make a motion, your time to answer is governed by Fed.R.Bankr.P. 7012.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a pretrial conference of the proceeding commenced by the filing of the complaint will be held at the following time and place.

Address

Courtroom:

Date and Time:

IF YOU FAIL TO RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS, YOUR FAILURE WILL BE DEEMED TO BE YOUR CONSENT TO ENTRY OF A JUDGMENT BY THE BANKRUPTCY COURT AND JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT.

James J. Waldron, Clerk

Date: _____

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

MEDIATION OF ALL DISPUTES IS ENCOURAGED AND IS AVAILABLE PURSUANT TO D.N.J. LBR 9019-2. THE PRACTITIONER'S GUIDE TO THE MEDIATION PROCESS IS AVAILABLE IN THE BANKRUPTCY COURT CLERK'S OFFICE, IN EACH COURTROOM, AND ON THE COURT'S WEB SITE: www.njb.uscourts.gov. THE GUIDE CONTAINS AN OVERVIEW OF THE MEDIATION PROCESS, SAMPLE FORMS, THE REGISTER OF MEDIATORS AND APPLICABLE LOCAL RULES.

Exhibit B

Page 1
Page 1

L. PORITSKY

USPS® ARTICLE NUMBER	
9414 7266 9904 2109 9146 34	
Certified Mail Fee	\$ 3.60
Return Receipt (Hardcopy)	\$ 2.85
Return Receipt (Electronic)	\$
Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	\$
Postage	\$
Total Postage and Fees	\$
Sent to:	Baris Kantarci 1500 Harbor Blvd Apt 256 Weehawken, NJ 07086 US
Reference Information 16093.0005-0546	
	
PS Form 3800, Facsimile, July 2015	

NEW YORK NY
MIDTOWN MAIL
STATION NEW YORK
Postmark Here

Exhibit C

USPS Tracking®

[FAQs >](#)

[Track Another Package +](#)

Tracking Number: 9414726699042109914634

[Remove X](#)

Your item was delivered at 12:18 pm on March 26, 2021 in WEEHAWKEN, NJ 07086.

Delivered

March 26, 2021 at 12:18 pm
WEEHAWKEN, NJ 07086

Feedback

[Get Updates ▼](#)

[Text & Email Updates](#) ▼

[Tracking History](#) ▼

[Product Information](#) ▼

[See Less ^](#)

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Go to our FAQs section to find answers to your tracking questions.

FAQs

Feedback

Exhibit D

Page 1

**U.S. Postal Service®
CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT**
Domestic Mail Only L. POLETSKY

USPS® ARTICLE NUMBER		
9414	7266	9904 2109 9146 41
		3.60
Certified Mail Fee	\$	2.85
Return Receipt (Hardcopy)	\$	
Return Receipt (Electronic)	\$	
Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	\$	
Postage	\$	
Total Postage and Fees	\$	

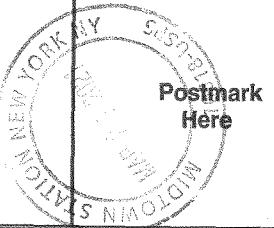
Sent to: Yakov Rudikh
Rudikh and Associates
14 Woodward Drive
Old Bridge, NJ 08857
US

16093.0005-0946 Reference Information



PS Form 3800, Facsimile, July 2015

Postmark Here



Page 1

**U.S. Postal Service®
CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT**
Domestic Mail Only L. POLETSKY

USPS® ARTICLE NUMBER		
9414	7266	9904 2109 9146 58
		3.60
Certified Mail Fee	\$	2.85
Return Receipt (Hardcopy)	\$	
Return Receipt (Electronic)	\$	
Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	\$	
Postage	\$	
Total Postage and Fees	\$	

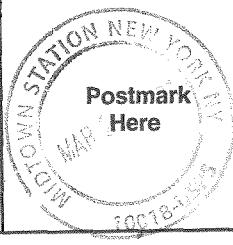
Sent to: Yakov Rudikh
223 Route 18 South, Suite 204
Suite 204
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
US

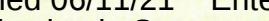
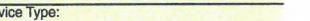
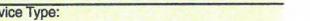
16093.0005-0946 Reference Information



PS Form 3800, Facsimile, July 2015

Postmark Here



Return Receipt (Form 3811) Barcode		COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY		Return Receipt (Form 3811) Barcode		COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY	
 Case 21-01214-SLM / Doc 142 Filed 06/11/21 Entered 06/11/21 12:12:32 Desc Exhibit Exhibits to certification in Support Page 108 of 119		Signature _____ Printed Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____		 9590 9266 9904 2106 4145 36		Signature _____ Printed Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____	
D. Is delivery address different from item 1? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If YES, enter delivery address below:				D. Is delivery address different from item 1? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If YES, enter delivery address below:			
Addressed to: Takov Rudikh 23 Route 18 South, Suite 204 Suite 204 East Brunswick, NJ 08816 US		1. Article Addressed to: Rudikh and Associates 14 Woodward Drive Old Bridge, NJ 08857 US		3. Service Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery		3. Service Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	
Reference Information 16093.0005-0999 - 		Reference Information 16093.0005-0999 - 		2. Certified Mail (Form 3800) Article Number ip.com/index.php 9414 7266 9904 2109 9146 41		Reference Information 16093.0005-0999 - 	
Domestic Return Receipt Domestic Mail (Form 3800) Article Number 16093.0005-0999 - 9414 7266 9904 2109 9146 41		Domestic Return Receipt PS Form 3811. Facsimile, July 2015		Domestic Return Receipt Domestic Mail (Form 3800) Article Number 16093.0005-0999 - 9414 7266 9904 2109 9146 41		Domestic Return Receipt PS Form 3811. Facsimile, July 2015	

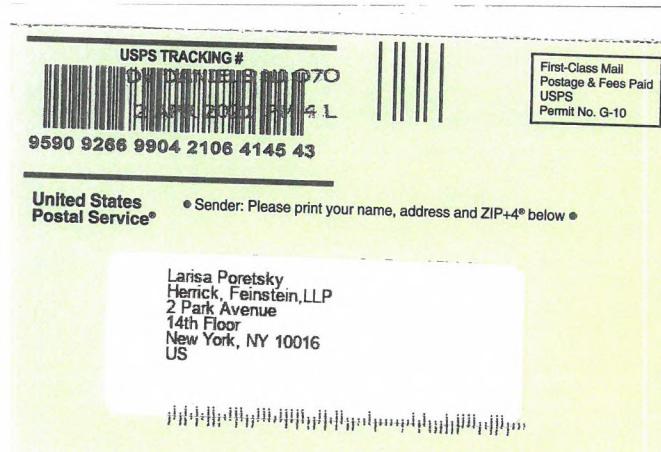


Exhibit E

USPS Tracking®

[FAQs >](#)

[Track Another Package +](#)

Tracking Number: 9414726699042109914641

[Remove X](#)

Your item was delivered to the front desk, reception area, or mail room at 11:51 am on March 27, 2021 in OLD BRIDGE, NJ 08857.

Delivered, Front Desk/Reception/Mail Room

March 27, 2021 at 11:51 am
OLD BRIDGE, NJ 08857

Feedback

[Get Updates ▾](#)

[Text & Email Updates](#) ▾

[Tracking History](#) ▾

[Product Information](#) ▾

[See Less ▲](#)

Can't find what you're looking for?

Go to our FAQs section to find answers to your tracking questions.

FAQs

Feedback

USPS Tracking®

[FAQs >](#)

[Track Another Package +](#)

Tracking Number: 9414726699042109914658

[Remove X](#)

Your item was delivered to the front desk, reception area, or mail room at 10:49 am on April 2, 2021 in OLD BRIDGE, NJ 08857.

Delivered, Front Desk/Reception/Mail Room

April 2, 2021 at 10:49 am
OLD BRIDGE, NJ 08857

Feedback

[Get Updates ▾](#)

[Text & Email Updates](#) ▾

[Tracking History](#) ▾

[Product Information](#) ▾

[See Less ▲](#)

Can't find what you're looking for?

Go to our FAQs section to find answers to your tracking questions.

FAQs

Feedback

Exhibit F

Ginzburg, Rachel

From: Ginzburg, Rachel
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 6:18 PM
To: 'rudikhlawgroup@gmail.com'
Cc: Smith, Steven
Subject: RE: Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. v. Baris A. Kantarci (Lead Case No. 20-23720; Adv. Pro. No. 21-01214) (Bankr. D.N.J.)
Attachments: Summons entered.pdf; Complaint Objection to Dischargeability of Debt w exhibits as filed.pdf

Good evening,

Attached, please find the summons and complaint for Adv. Pro. No. 21-01214 (Bankr. D.N.J.). Please advise whether you will accept service via e-mail.

Thank you,
Rachel



Rachel H. Ginzburg
Associate
Herrick, Feinstein LLP
Two Park Avenue | New York, NY 10016
212.592.5950 Office
212.545.3311 Fax
rginzburg@herrick.com

From: Ginzburg, Rachel
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 3:24 PM
To: 'rudikhlawgroup@gmail.com' <rudikhlawgroup@gmail.com>
Cc: Smith, Steven <ssmith@herrick.com>
Subject: Cosmopolitan Food Group, Inc. v. Baris A. Kantarci (Lead Case No. 20-23720; Adv. Pro. No. 21-01214) (Bankr. D.N.J.)

Good afternoon,

Attached, please find a complaint that was filed earlier today under Lead Case No. 20-23720/Adv. Pro. Case No. 21-01214 in the Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey. Can you please confirm whether you will accept service on behalf of Mr. Kantarci by e-mail?

Best,
Rachel



Rachel H. Ginzburg
Associate

Herrick, Feinstein LLP

Two Park Avenue | New York, NY 10016
212.592.5950 Office
212.545.3311 Fax
rginzburg@herrick.com

Exhibit G



Status Report
Pursuant to Servicemembers Civil Relief Act

SSN: XXX-XX-8521

Birth Date: [REDACTED]-XX-1986

Last Name: KANTARCI

First Name: BARIS

Middle Name:

Status As Of: May-20-2021

Certificate ID: YFWDBPRRR2ZJ7B5

On Active Duty On Active Duty Status Date			
Active Duty Start Date	Active Duty End Date	Status	Service Component
NA	NA	No	NA
This response reflects the individuals' active duty status based on the Active Duty Status Date			

Left Active Duty Within 367 Days of Active Duty Status Date			
Active Duty Start Date	Active Duty End Date	Status	Service Component
NA	NA	No	NA
This response reflects where the individual left active duty status within 367 days preceding the Active Duty Status Date			

The Member or His/Her Unit Was Notified of a Future Call-Up to Active Duty on Active Duty Status Date			
Order Notification Start Date	Order Notification End Date	Status	Service Component
NA	NA	No	NA
This response reflects whether the individual or his/her unit has received early notification to report for active duty			

Upon searching the data banks of the Department of Defense Manpower Data Center, based on the information that you provided, the above is the status of the individual on the active duty status date as to all branches of the Uniformed Services (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, NOAA, Public Health, and Coast Guard). This status includes information on a Servicemember or his/her unit receiving notification of future orders to report for Active Duty.

Michael V. Sorrento, Director

Department of Defense - Manpower Data Center

400 Gigling Rd.

Seaside, CA 93955

The DoD strongly supports the enforcement of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 USC App. § 3901 et seq., as amended) (SCRA) (formerly known as the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940). DMDC has issued hundreds of thousands of "does not possess any information indicating that the individual is currently on active duty" responses, and has experienced only a small error rate. In the event the individual referenced above, or any family member, friend, or representative asserts in any manner that the individual was on active duty for the active duty status date, or is otherwise entitled to the protections of the SCRA, you are strongly encouraged to obtain further verification of the person's status by contacting that person's Service. Service contact information can be found on the SCRA website's FAQ page (Q35) via this URL: <https://scra.dmdc.osd.mil/scra/#faqs>. If you have evidence the person was on active duty for the active duty status date and you fail to obtain this additional Service verification, punitive provisions of the SCRA may be invoked against you. See 50 USC App. § 3921(c).

This response reflects the following information: (1) The individual's Active Duty status on the Active Duty Status Date (2) Whether the individual left Active Duty status within 367 days preceding the Active Duty Status Date (3) Whether the individual or his/her unit received early notification to report for active duty on the Active Duty Status Date.

More information on "Active Duty Status"

Active duty status as reported in this certificate is defined in accordance with 10 USC § 101(d) (1). Prior to 2010 only some of the active duty periods less than 30 consecutive days in length were available. In the case of a member of the National Guard, this includes service under a call to active service authorized by the President or the Secretary of Defense under 32 USC § 502(f) for purposes of responding to a national emergency declared by the President and supported by Federal funds. All Active Guard Reserve (AGR) members must be assigned against an authorized mobilization position in the unit they support. This includes Navy Training and Administration of the Reserves (TARs), Marine Corps Active Reserve (ARs) and Coast Guard Reserve Program Administrator (RPAs). Active Duty status also applies to a Uniformed Service member who is an active duty commissioned officer of the U.S. Public Health Service or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Commissioned Corps).

Coverage Under the SCRA is Broader in Some Cases

Coverage under the SCRA is broader in some cases and includes some categories of persons on active duty for purposes of the SCRA who would not be reported as on Active Duty under this certificate. SCRA protections are for Title 10 and Title 14 active duty records for all the Uniformed Services periods. Title 32 periods of Active Duty are not covered by SCRA, as defined in accordance with 10 USC § 101(d)(1).

Many times orders are amended to extend the period of active duty, which would extend SCRA protections. Persons seeking to rely on this website certification should check to make sure the orders on which SCRA protections are based have not been amended to extend the inclusive dates of service. Furthermore, some protections of the SCRA may extend to persons who have received orders to report for active duty or to be inducted, but who have not actually begun active duty or actually reported for induction. The Last Date on Active Duty entry is important because a number of protections of the SCRA extend beyond the last dates of active duty.

Those who could rely on this certificate are urged to seek qualified legal counsel to ensure that all rights guaranteed to Service members under the SCRA are protected

WARNING: This certificate was provided based on a last name, SSN/date of birth, and active duty status date provided by the requester. Providing erroneous information will cause an erroneous certificate to be provided.